

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING INSERT

FOR THE RECORD

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## Eliza Broadus Offering

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

Louisville—Another year, another record total for Eliza Broadus.

With the 2009-10 fiscal year wrapped up, Kentucky Baptists' gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions topped out at more than \$1.26 million.

The total far exceeded the \$1.1 million goal. In fact, it even surpassed the \$1.2 million offering target established for the 2010-11 fiscal year, which began Sept. 1.

Even though the record Eliza Broadus Offering totals are exciting, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union Executive Director Joy Bolton admitted she would prefer to celebrate record salvations over record giving.

"As excited as I am about the overage of the offering, I'd much rather be celebrating that kind of percentage increase in the baptisms in Kentucky this time next year—because that's what it's all about," Bolton said. "The offering is only a vehicle."

This week marks the Season of Prayer for State Missions, highlighting the missions and ministries funded by the Eliza Broadus Offering.

EBO materials sent to Kentucky Baptist churches ask the question: "Why?" The answer: "Because there are lost people in Kentucky who need the gospel."

## Kevin Ezell

### Louisville pastor's heart beats for church planting, international adoption

By Mike Ebert  
North American Mission Board

Orlando, Fla.—When Kevin Ezell invited Buff and Cissy McNickle on stage at the 2010 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference with newborn son Jedidah, it became an emotional highlight of the two-day event.

Ezell led the conference to establish a fund for pastors who wanted to adopt, and Buff, a Florida pastor, was the first to benefit from the fund. But the couple still had \$10,000 in outstanding costs associated with the adoption of Jedidah and his twin brother Judah.

"They don't know this," Ezell said to the audience with his arm around the tearful couple, "but the generous sponsors that we have for the Pastors' Conference are going to pay your adoption off in full."

Ezell's family has been greatly impacted by adoption. He and his wife, Lynette, have adopted three children, each from different nations.

"It has made a huge

impact on our biological children because it has made them more missions-minded," he said. "And I tell people our family always has someone to cheer for when we watch the Olympics."

This week, trustees of the North American Mission Board will hold a special meeting in Atlanta to consider making Ezell the new president of the Southern Baptist entity. The 48-year-old currently is pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville.

□ See Ezell ... Page 6



Kevin Ezell

## A 'vehicle' for reaching Kentucky's lost with the gospel

Kentucky WMU cites a 2000 Glenmary Research Center study that revealed only 12.1 percent of Kentuckians attend a worship service of any kind each week.

What that report reveals, Bolton

said, is the overwhelming number of lost people who live within the borders of the commonwealth.

The specific prayer guides provided by Kentucky WMU "focus on lostness in Kentucky," she noted.

Bolton said she has witnessed the power of Kentucky Baptists' concerted prayer through past Eliza Broadus prayer emphases. Last year, the final day's prayer request was for the of

□ See ... Page 2

WHY? Because there are lost people in Kentucky who need the gospel.

2010 State Missions Emphasis and Eliza Broadus Offering

LEARN PRAY GIVE GO

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Romans 10:13 NIV

## Winning souls focus of 'Big Day'

Alpharetta, Ga.—Southern Baptist churches have an opportunity to set aside one "Big Day" this fall to focus on the importance of every individual being prepared to share his or her faith.

Also known as Soul-Winning Commitment Day, the event can be customized with a variety of training opportunities, sermon ideas and other tools to reflect the needs of individual churches, according to Dick Church, church evangelism and resource coordinator for the North American Mission Board's personal evangelism team. The mission board sponsors the annual emphasis, which has a suggested date this year of Oct. 3.

"The goal of Soul Winning Commitment Day is to encourage pastors and church leaders to dedicate one day of the year to motivate, inspire and challenge church members to make a commitment to reach beyond the walls of the church and engage in some form of evangelism," Church said.

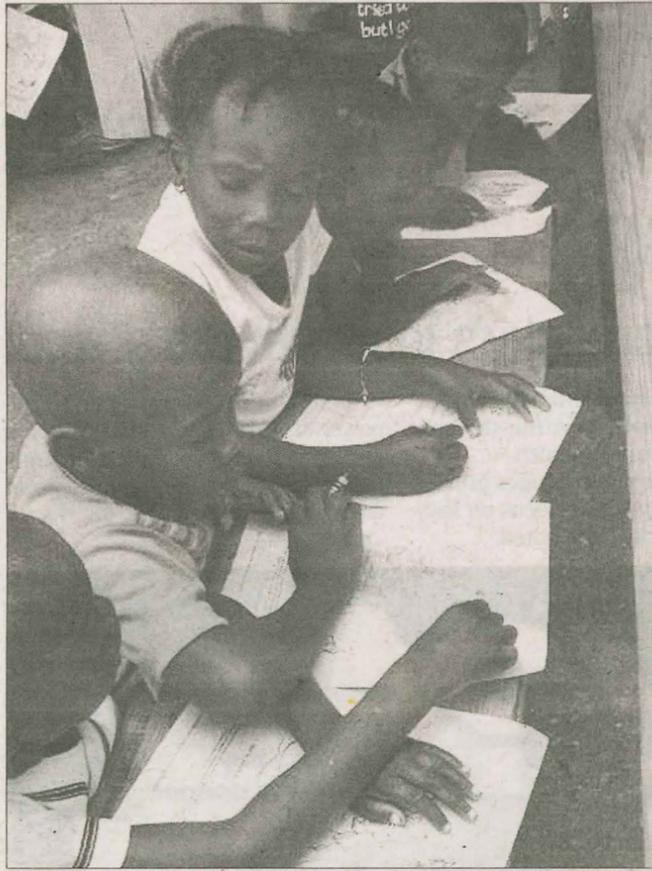
For some, he noted, that might mean committing to take a course on how to share their faith. For others, it might be a commitment to participating in visitation or outreach events. Others might simply commit to looking for opportunities to share their testimonies of how Christ has changed their lives.

The theme this year is "Every Believer Sharing," which ties into Southern Baptists' 10-year "God's Plan for Sharing" initiative launched this year, Church noted. A key GPS goal is to equip every believer to share the gospel, he pointed out.

Resources for the Big Day include a comprehensive planning guide that provides either a full turn-key plan for a church to implement or a set of tools to customize its own emphasis. Some churches have opted to utilize the "One Hour Witnessing Workshop" during their Sunday morning worship services, for instance, while some pastors might craft a sermon using points from a sermon outline and offer opportunities to make a commitment. Among other resources are Sunday school/small group lessons and drama scripts.

Resources can be downloaded free at [www.TheBigDay.org](http://www.TheBigDay.org). (BP)

## Ky. Baptists bring encouragement to Haitians



**GOD'S CHILDREN** Haitian kids enjoy coloring during a vacation Bible school provided by Kentucky Baptist volunteers. About 200 boys and girls attended a two-day Bible school in the Port-au-Prince community of Canape Vert. Another 50 or so kids attended a three-day VBS in the Delmas 33 community. (Photo by Greta Wilson/KBC)

By Dannah Prather  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Port-au-Prince, Haiti**—A team of Kentucky Baptists, the 18th to serve in Haiti since the Jan. 12 earthquake, recently provided spiritual encouragement for local pastors, vacation Bible schools for hundreds of children, and Buckets of Hope to perhaps some of the most hopeless of Haitians.

Greta Wilson, missions education consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, led the eight-member team representing churches in Benton, London and Crestwood.

In the mornings, the Kentucky Baptist men led 16 local pastors in discipleship training while the women held vacation Bible schools in two Port-au-Prince communities. In all about 250 children, some of them orphans since the quake, attended. Revival services were held in the evenings.

"The Christian Haitians are a very resilient people with such a joy for the Lord and a desire to serve Him without reservation," said Tom Townsend, marketing and business manager for the Western Recorder and a member of Crestwood Baptist Church.

Wilson said one aspect of the trip she "is still processing" was a one-day ministry at a women's prison in Petionville. "The conditions were deplorable," she said, noting that in some

cases there were as many as 25 women sharing a single cell.

"The warden is a committed Christian and requested our visit," Townsend said.

The Kentucky team joined fellow Southern Baptists in delivering 300 Buckets of Hope to the prison. Each five-gallon bucket contains food staples such as flour, rice and cooking oil. Earlier this year, Southern Baptists filled 152,000 buckets and shipped them to Haiti. Volunteers began distributing them in June.

Rather than taking all the food into the prison's kitchen, Wilson said officials permitted prisoners to receive peanut butter and sugar directly from the Baptist volunteers. Team members said they heard women reading the gospel tracts, which were included in the buckets, aloud to their cellmates.

Additional volunteers are needed to serve in Haiti. Recently the focus of the recovery effort has shifted from disaster relief to rebuilding homes. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers are refining a prototype so each team may be able to construct two houses in a single week.

To find out more about the rebuilding mission, contact the KBC's partnership missions department by e-mail at [Partnership@KyBaptist.org](mailto:Partnership@KyBaptist.org) or by phone at (502) 489-3529 or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3529.

## DOM Jim Clontz to be nominated for KBC 2nd VP

**Junction City**—Jim Clontz, director of missions for South District Baptist Association in Danville, will be nominated as Kentucky Baptist Convention second vice president when the



Jim Clontz

KBC annual meeting convenes Nov. 16 in Lexington.

Clontz is the first announced candidate for the post. He will be nominated by Choe Sergent, an associate

pastor at First Baptist Church of Junction City, who made the announcement via a post on the Western Recorder's Facebook page, a first for the newspaper.

In an e-mail, Sergent said Clontz has a vision for Kentucky Baptists "to extend the growth, 'in-reach,' outreach and continued expression of missions to ensure our fulfillment of the Great Commission."

Sergent said he and other ministers feel the convention needs an officer who understands and can represent the smaller-membership churches, which make up the majority of KBC congregations.

"I would bear that burden gladly," Clontz said of being an advocate for the state's smaller congregations.

According to the KBC's 2009 Annual Church Profile report, the average primary worship attendance of South District congregations is around 158 people (18 of 24 churches reporting). The highest Sunday worship attendance reported was 387.

Clontz said he is a proponent of reaching pastors on an associational level with proposals like the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force report, which will be voted on by KBC messengers at the annual meeting.

While he supports the task force's recommendations, Clontz said he thinks more attention should be focused on the increased giving challenge aspect of the report rather than the budget cuts. "I understand there needs to be some reallocation, but my first choice is to see if we can't give more."

Clontz became DOM of South District Association in 2005 after serving the KBC in the area of discipleship training from 1985-2004. He holds degrees from Furman University, as well as Southern and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminaries.

Clontz is a member of First Baptist Church of Danville. According to the KBC's 2009 ACP statistics, the church gave 2.5 percent of its undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program and reported eight baptisms in 2008-09.

## Eliza Broadus Offering buoys state missions efforts

Continued from page 1

fering to exceed its goal—which it did by more than \$50,000.

The lion's share of that surplus was used to purchase additional TV advertising for the Find It Here campaign.

The tremendously successful evangelistic push reached more than 83 percent of Kentucky households with the message of the gospel, resulting in more than 500 professions of faith statewide.

"It says to me that Kentucky Baptists are taking these prayer requests to heart and they're praying—which is exciting," Bolton said.

Right now, Bolton is working with Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey and Larry Baker, the KBC's missions growth team leader, to determine how this year's surplus of more than \$168,000 will be distributed.

In that process, Bolton noted, the question becomes: "What are the most strategic ways that overage can be used to enhance Kentucky missions?"

Perhaps no one group relies more on the Eliza Broadus Offering than the KBC's missions growth team led by Baker. The KBC's share of this year's offering is \$800,000. Of that total, the missions growth team will receive more than \$615,000—nearly one-quarter of its 2010-11 budget.

Without EBO funds, "we would be severely handicapped," Baker acknowledged.

Ethnic ministries, an area in which the KBC has stepped up its efforts in recent years, rely heavily on the Eliza Broadus Offering, which account for 100 percent of the ethnic church planting budget.

Starting new churches has become a priority in the ethnic ministries department as the focus has shifted from transitional, migrant-based ministries to reaching those immigrants who now call Kentucky home, Bolton said. That only can be done by planting churches, she emphasized.

Baker pointed out that ethnic ministries

### Eliza Broadus Offering 2010-11 Allocations

**Kentucky Baptist Convention:  
State Missions and Evangelism**  
\$800,000

**Kentucky WMU:  
Missions Education**  
\$275,000

**Kentucky Special Ministries**  
\$125,000

**Eliza Broadus Offering Goal**  
\$1.2 million

previously focused primarily on Hispanics and Koreans in the state. These days Kentucky Baptist ethnic missionaries are reaching a number of people groups in the state, including Nepalese, Bosnians, Iraqis, Somalis and South Asian Indians. Most of those groups are traditionally Muslim believers.

"That one offering has a tremendous impact on how we are able to reach out for the Great Commission in Kentucky," Baker said.

### Greater reliance on EBO in future

Ironically, the recent debate over how to effectively fulfill God's mandate to share the gospel and make disciples in all the world certainly will amplify the Eliza Broadus Offering's importance down the road.

The Great Commission Resurgence Task Force report, which was approved by Southern Baptist Convention messengers back in June, called for a seven-year dissolution of the cooperative agreements between the state conventions and the North American Mission Board.

The funds allocated through those agreements fund a great deal of the missions

growth team's work. While it's still not clear how it will happen, that money will disappear by 2018.

That will place a heavy reliance on EBO funds, Baker said.

"It will be the largest source of funding that we have for ethnic work in Kentucky," he noted.

Changes in the state convention loom, as well. The Kentucky Great Commission Task Force has released its report to be voted on by KBC messengers in November. It challenges churches to increase Cooperative Program giving by at least 0.25 percent each year for seven years.

Asked if there is a concern that increased CP giving will have a negative effect on the Eliza Broadus Offering, Bolton said not at all.

"We could not do what we do through the Eliza Broadus Offering if it were not for the foundation of the Cooperative Program," she said.

Most of the time, "EBO funds are added to funds that are already available through the Cooperative Program," she explained.

"EBO funds add that extra 'oomph' to that ministry, if you will, or that extra little bit that makes something else possible."

In this Season of Prayer for State Missions, Bolton urged Kentucky Baptists to earnestly pray for the millions of Kentuckians—neighbors, friends and family members—who do not yet know Jesus Christ.

"If Kentucky Baptists will really pray over these prayer requests and be serious about praying for lostness in Kentucky, what might we be saying about new believers" next year? Bolton asked.

Baker also encouraged church WMU directors statewide to continue their efforts in making the Eliza Broadus Offering one that continuously reaps eternal rewards.

"This is a very successful offering, one that pays back benefits in many, many different ways—mostly with lives of people who have been transformed by Jesus Christ," he said. "How can you put a price on that?"

## Tenets of Scientology incompatible with Christianity

By Todd Deaton  
Editor

Louisville—When the Church of Scientology sought to purchase the former building of a Baptist church in Florence, some Kentucky Baptists may have raised an eyebrow.

After hearing the Super Saturday seminar on the basic beliefs of Scientology, however, they gained a better understanding of just how incompatible the group's beliefs are with the Christian faith.

Often associated with Hollywood celebrities, such as Tom Cruise, John Travolta and Kirstie Alley, Scientology teaches how to find peace through "dianetics," a method developed by the late L. Ron Hubbard in the early 1950s, explained Bill Ellis, discipleship pastor at Crestwood Baptist Church.

During his seminar—one of many workshops being offered statewide at Super Saturday events sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention—Ellis traced the group's history and rapid growth, defined some of its core terminology and beliefs, and suggested effective approaches for

witnessing to Scientologists.

Based on Hubbard's book, "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health," Scientology has developed into "an applied religious philosophy," Ellis noted. According to Hubbard, the universe is inhabited by immortal souls or spiritual beings, called "thetans," which reside in human bodies.

Hubbard, a science fiction author, espoused that these thetans have become burdened with negative emotions and painful experiences, or "engrams," which have accumulated during numerous lifetimes experienced through reincarnation, Ellis continued. These engrams can cause mental and physical illnesses, Scientologists maintain.

Scientology offers a method of "clearing" the mind of all the obstacles that prevent a thetan from realizing its true identity and awesome power, Ellis explained. Through extensive and expensive counseling, known as auditing sessions, a per-

son is freed from engrams and their ill effects on the mind and body. An electrophyschometer sometimes is used in the process to measure one's progress through eight levels toward becoming an operating thetan that possesses the power to create and control its universe.

Attributes of someone who has achieved a "clear" state include an increasing ability to perform, perceive, recall, imagine and create at a level high above the norm.

"That's why for those who are on the creative end of things—musicians, actors, actresses, etc.—Scientology is such a lure," Ellis observed. "If they can gain control over the people and things around them, they are going to get the next big movie part or write the next song."

Distributing a handout on Scientology produced by Tal Davis of the North American Mission Board, Ellis emphasized that, from a biblical perspective, Jesus Christ is God's solution to our sin problem, and His

grace and forgiveness is offered freely to all. And, contrary to the claims of reincarnation, people live one earthly life, and the righteous—those who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior—will spend eternity in heaven.

"Sometimes people have never had a clear, simple presentation of the gospel," Ellis noted. "When we are able to articulate it in such a way when they are ready to hear it, the Spirit, working in their hearts and lives, will use that seed to help it take root."

Drawing on Davis' suggestions for witnessing, Ellis emphasized the importance of having a clear understanding of the Christian faith, determining the level of someone's involvement in Scientology, and establishing a personal relationship through which one can share a testimony and the plan of salvation, and show the incompatibility of Scientology and Christianity.

Only two Super Saturday events remain, Sept. 18 at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green and First Baptist Church of Russell.



## KBC offers conference on 'Understanding Other Beliefs'

Richmond—Kentucky Baptists interested in learning how to better relate to people from other religious backgrounds are encouraged to attend the Understanding Other Beliefs Conference Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m., at Unity Baptist Church in Richmond.

Three topics will be offered: "New Age Spirituality" led by Don Metcalf; "Comparing Mormonism and Christianity" led by Bill Ellis; and "Understanding the Times: An Introduction to the Christian Worldview" led by Dave Meredith. Facilitators are certified in their areas of teaching by the North American Mission Board.

"It is very important for Christians to know what other people believe and how that differs from biblical Christianity," said Ross Bauscher, leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism growth team. Referencing 1 Peter 3:15, Bauscher added that it is equally important for believers to share their faith with an attitude of "gentleness and reverence."

This free event is sponsored by the KBC's evangelism growth team and is made possible through gifts to the Cooperative Program. Advanced registration is not required.

## Flanagan: Student ministers must maintain key relationships

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

Lexington—As youth ministers seek to lead students to personal relationships with Christ, they also must focus on specific relationships in their own lives, one student minister asserted.

"This is really where we've got to focus and be strong at," said Matt Flanagan of Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown at a recent Super Saturday workshop in Lexington.

Sharing his eight key relationships of youth ministry, Flanagan said the information was gleaned from conversations with other student ministers from across the state.

No. 1 on the list is fairly obvious, Flanagan said—a youth pastor's relationship with God.

"You cannot take students where you are not. You cannot ask students to do what you are not doing," he stressed.

Asking the group to consider how their own personal devotional lives with Christ looked, Flanagan said it is imperative that student workers—vocational and volunteer—spend plenty of time in Bible study and prayer.

"We want to have a fruitful relationship with our Lord, spending quality time with Him, being nurtured by Him, being taught by those that He uses within our own hearts and our own lives, so that we can fully be effective in working with teenagers," Flanagan noted.

What it comes down to is youth ministers must practice what they preach, he said.

"When you're challenging them to go further in their faith, to learn to lean more upon God, to risk more of what they have in order to trust God more fully in what He says, they've got to see that in you," he urged fellow youth workers.

No. 2—relationship with one's own family. "Your primary responsibility is the spiritual growth of your own family," Flanagan said.

Speaking from experience, vocational ministers are some of the worst at disobeying that rule, he noted.

"Because we have 15 kids that we're trying to keep up with, we forget sometimes that the two kids right here need us much, much more," he pointed out.

No. 3—relationship with church staff and other youth workers. "You are a team, and the students need to see that," Flanagan said.

No. 4—relationship with the lead pastor. Sometimes, a pastor and other staff ministers may not see eye to eye on certain issues. When that happens, it is not wise for a youth minister to share his or her discontent with students.

"Those are not healthy comments around teenagers," he said. "We need to build each other up."

Flanagan suggested two ways to strengthen a student minister's relationship with the senior pastor:

- Your pastor should never be surprised by something that happens in your youth ministry. "When something goes awry, never leave him in a position where he's surprised by something that's come up that maybe is in a negative light that's under your care," he recommended.

- Always make sure the pastor knows your heart. "Make sure that he knows that you're going to support what he's doing," Flanagan said, "and he will support who you are and your students, as well."

No. 5 on Flanagan's list is a youth minister's relationship with students. "Why isn't this No. 1? Isn't this what we're called to do—invest in students?" he asked.

One's relationship with God always should be a top priority, followed by that of the family, Flanagan explained. If those relationships are struggling, then the ministry to students will struggle as well, he said.

No. 6—relationship with parents of students. "We need to involve par-

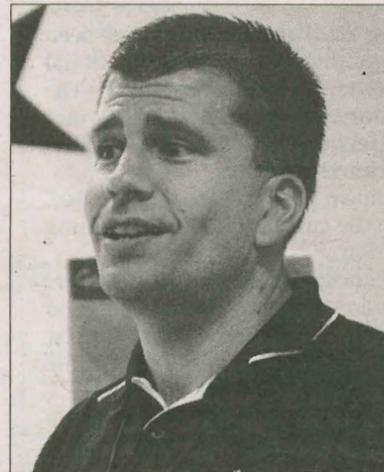
ents in the discipleship of our students," Flanagan said, pointing out several examples in the Bible where parents are instructed to be the primary disciplers of their children.

No. 7—relationship with local schools and community organizations. "If your youth ministry isn't involved with the local school, then you ain't doing youth ministry," Flanagan said, quoting a fellow youth pastor.

The final item on Flanagan's list is one's relationship with other youth ministers or workers.

"If you are a student minister in this room, you need to be connected with other student ministers," Flanagan stressed. "They know what you're struggling with. They know the pressures on you."

"You need to be walking alongside some other guys who've been there before and can give you some help."



**STUDENT MINISTRY KEYS** Matt Flanagan, minister to students at Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown, discusses the eight key relationships all youth ministry workers must have in order to be effective in reaching students at a recent Super Saturday event in Lexington. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

## Equine ministry group to help clean horse park

Lexington—With the start of the World Equestrian Games less than two weeks away, a group coordinating ministries around the event is helping the state put its best foot forward.

Affiliated International Ministries, an interdenominational organization sponsoring a series of gospel-sharing events before, during and after the games, is hosting a clean-up day Sept. 18 at the Kentucky Horse Park where the games will be held.

According to an e-mail from LaRaine Rice, AIM's volunteer coordinator, participants will be doing jobs ranging from pulling weeds to cleaning seats at the park's outdoor stadium. AIM volunteers also will be praying for the hundreds of thousands of worldwide visitors who will begin arriving next week.

"Cleaning seats, pulling weeds and picking up cigarette butts is not glamorous," Rice said in the e-mail, "but it is making a difference."

AIM still is looking for volunteers for the work day. Those who are interested in participating are encouraged to visit the AIM website, [www.AIMKy.org](http://www.AIMKy.org), for more information.

The clean-up crew will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the AIM offices at Cane Run Baptist Church directly across the street from the horse park for a time of orientation and prayer.



**LAST-MINUTE PREPS** A group of Kentucky Baptists wipe down the seats at the Kentucky Horse Park's outdoor stadium prior to an event earlier this year. Affiliated International Ministries is hosting a work day at the Lexington park Sept. 18 to help organizers get ready for the World Equestrian Games which begin Sept. 25. (file photo)

## Tates Creek celebrates 225 years

Tates Creek Baptist Church in Richmond celebrated its 225 anniversary on Aug. 29 with a packed house, great music and an outstanding sermon by the pastor, Jerry Huffman.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

Special music was provided by the Cobb Family, the children's choir, a recently organized youth instrumental group, the church choir, and Kaitlyn Doan and Tyler Shields. Anniversary coordinator Terrie Bayless shared a pictorial history of the church and led a memorial service.

During the afternoon celebration, Hamp Valentine, Tates Creek Baptist Association's director of missions, and I, as a representative of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, shared congratulations with the congregation. Letters of congratulations were also read from Southern Baptist Convention leaders.

Exciting ministry reports came from children and youth, the Woman's Missionary Union and Mission Service Corps. Doris Gish, the church's WMU director, shared about several effective ministries by the WMU. Marilyn Creighton, a Mission Service Corps missionary through the North American Mission Board, has an office at the church.

It was exciting to see as much focus on the present and future, although Tates Creek has an illustrious history. It traces its history to 1783, when Andrew Tribble left Virginia for the frontier. By God's providence, he would become the first pastor. Tribble had influenced the future President Thomas Jefferson with his views of religious freedom, and he brought with him a dedicated pioneer spirit.

In September 1786, during the convention in Danville to determine if it was expedient to constitute Kentucky as a state, the five delegates from Madison County were all connected to the church.

Names like Boone, Irvine, Estill and Chenault have been a part of the fellowship. A number of denominational leaders, missionaries and other leaders have served at the church throughout its history. Green Clay Smith, former governor of the Montana Territory and later presidential candidate, also served the church as pastor.

The original building, known as "Stone Meeting House," burned in 1850. That led to the current building becoming the home for the congregation.

The pastor said that the one constant over the 225 years has been the church's passion for proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. It is recorded that at least 22 churches had their origin with Tates Creek Baptist Church and the association carries the church name.

It was gratifying to learn that the church has been consistent in its support of missions through the Cooperative Program (10 percent) and the local association (3 percent), as well as in its support of the special missions offerings.

I thank God for the wonderful heritage of Tates Creek Baptist Church and look forward to seeing how God will continue to use this congregation in the days ahead.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Shoebox savings and the lure of easy money

Several days ago, my children carried shoeboxes, cloth shopping bags and glass jars filled with pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters to a machine at a nearby grocery that counts change. The shoeboxes and bags, mostly filled with loose pocket change that their late grandfather had collected over many years, were found while cleaning out his garage, study and closets when their grandmother was packing to move to her new house. The counting process took nearly an hour of clanging and rattling, which I'm sure was heard throughout the store for it attracted curious onlookers. Before starting, we all guessed how much money was in those shoeboxes, bags and jars. We were very surprised. It totaled nearly \$600!



### After Thought

By Todd Deaton

In itself, the experience provided a powerful illustration about the value of a penny and the joy of saving. But we also made another significant observation that day. Next to us in the store was a machine that sold scratch-off tickets for many lottery games. While our machine counted our small change; the other one gobbled up people's bills—lots of them. People stood in lines—sometimes four to six persons deep—waiting for an opportunity to feed it with fives, tens or twenties. All of the players were no doubt dreaming of getting rich quickly. To the best of my knowledge, though, we never heard an exclamation of joy from a single winner. They all lost money! We were the only ones to walk out with more cash in our pockets.

Kentuckians no longer have to go to race tracks, casinos or video slot machine parlors to gamble away their cash; they can lose the money their families need for food, gas, medicines, clothes or to pay their rent or mortgage right in the grocery store and at gas stations all across the commonwealth. And, state legislators who permit these highly addictive and socially destructive behaviors to take root among our citizens are putting the government's budget woes ahead of their people's best interests. Good government should provide its citizens with good choices and opportunities for gainful employment, not encourage them to make wrong choices or promote corruptive influences that undermine a healthy economy and their well-being.

While some may object that specific scriptural references to gambling are difficult to find, various ser-

mons on the SBC's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission's Website underscore that many of the principles that the gospel teaches run counter to the negative character traits that gambling preys upon and the societal ills that it promotes. Matthew 6:19-34, for example, addresses the attitudes of covetousness, greed and materialism—gambling's basic lure and its empty promises of fame and fortune. And, Matthew 22:37-40 counters the wrongful act of seeking personal gain or pleasure at someone else's expense—its detrimental concept that for one to win some, everyone else must lose big. Perhaps one of the most direct indictments, though, is a proverb by Israel's wisest king, Solomon: "A hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies has no sense" (12:11)—gambling's deceptive fallacy as a get-rich-quick scheme. Yet, the most applicable warning is 1 Timothy 6:10: "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs"—its catastrophic effects on the lives of individuals and families that often lead to increased incidences of divorce, robbery, embezzlement, assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and other crimes by desperate people.

On Sept. 19, churches across the Southern Baptist Convention are encouraged to observe Anti-Gambling Sunday. It's a good occasion to provide our people with a biblical response to the question: "What's so wrong about gambling?" But, equally important is equipping people with specific steps to avoid being ensnared by its powerful lure. Suggestions on the ERLC's Website include recognizing that one does not get something for nothing, instead it comes at a great price to families, neighbors and communities; being aware that somebody always gets hurt; refusing to participate in even occasional games, warding off habit-forming, destructive behaviors; and acknowledging that your actions likely influence others, unwittingly creating a "stumbling block" to being an effective Christian witness. Beyond these, consider contacting legislators to voice opposition to all expanded gambling measures and consider offering a voter-registration table at your church to make sure new members and young adults are informed about critical social issues.

## Support GCR

I love the way that Baptists cooperate together through the Cooperative Program to reach out locally and globally for King Jesus. I love it because of the theology and passion instilled in me from my upbringing in a Kentucky Baptist church.

They taught me that those who do not believe the gospel will spend eternity under God's wrath and that they will not have the chance to believe unless Christians like us go to share with them. I have been given opportunities in this church to see up close the vast lostness of the world through short-term mission trips.

That is why I'm so excited about the report from Kentucky's Great Commission Task Force. It forges the way for us to send more missionaries to the unreached by re-allocating CP dollars. Two of the recommendations excite me the most.

The first is the call to re-allocate CP funds to a 50/50 split between Kentucky causes and SBC causes, so that more money goes to reaching peoples in the world who are unengaged with the gospel. According to our International Mis-

sion Board, there are 4,743 unengaged people groups with no gospel access, and this recommendation calls us to action.

Another recommendation calls for each church to increase CP giving. I believe that churches will do more once our state convention makes a bold step to do more for global missions.

I have never been more excited to be a Kentucky Baptist because our state convention is courageously leading the way before other state conventions in the task of reaching the unreached. I will be at the KBC meeting on Nov. 16 to cast my vote for this report. I pray that you will join me.

Jonathan Akin, pastor  
Highview Baptist Church  
Valley Station Campus, Louisville

less than 2.3 percent to the Cooperative Program and only \$10,000 to NAMB's special offering each year. Its total mission's expenditures of \$1,350,170 include \$50,000 for the Lottie Moon Christian Offering for International Missions and \$10,000 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions.

The truth is, if every church gave to NAMB accordingly, then NAMB would not be able to operate. In the profile, it says the church gave \$1.3 million to missions, but this was not through the Cooperative Program. So let me understand, we want people to lead NAMB who support missions overwhelmingly outside the convention? If all churches did this, then CP would fall, and so would all of the SBC agencies.

Surely, there is someone else whose heart is focused on NAMB and shows it through their support.

Mark Payton, co-pastor  
St. Paul Baptist Church  
at Shively Heights, Louisville



## The right man?

Before anyone thinks I am critical of Kevin Ezell, I am not. I am thankful for his ministry in Louisville. However, leading the North American Mission Board is another question.

If you just simply take his Annual Church Profile, it says his heart is not at NAMB. With a budget of over \$6 million, his church gives

**Forum Disclaimer:** Baptist Forum is provided as an opportunity for Kentucky Baptists to express their viewpoints on a variety of subjects. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Recorder's editorial staff, its Board of Directors, or the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length and will be edited for style, clarity and space. Letters must reflect a spirit of Christian charity and civility.

## WESTERN Recorder

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Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. Romans 14:19

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## Providing security for youth events at churches

In the last couple of weeks, I have had the opportunity to be in several schools across Kentucky. One thing that stands out is the priority they place on security.

Every visitor must sign in at a central location and must have a reason to be there. All volunteers must be finger-printed and background checks are done before they can interact with students.

The mechanism at each school is different, and there are some variables as to how security is carried out. Yet, one thing is certain: Each school takes security seriously.

That started me to thinking about what we do as churches when it comes to security at our events.

One of the foundations of youth ministry is events—sometimes big events that draw hundreds of students. So, I ask Brian Decann, a church security consultant in Northern Kentucky to help us think through what we do, and to suggest some things that youth ministries need to pay attention to when it comes to security.

One of the questions we talked about was, at what point should a youth ministry consider hiring outside security, instead of relying on volunteers? Decann responded, "This depends on the size of the event. Up to 50 people, parents and volunteers could be used. With a group of 100 or more, a Christian security firm should be used."

He also said the length of the event matters. "If the event is longer than two days, with cars or campers, some type of security should be enlisted."

We also talked some about what to look for when hiring an outside security firm. While a lot of the obvious things came out—making sure they are bonded, checking references, and doing an interview with specific personnel who will be working your event—Decann suggested that we make sure that "the firm is Christian-based, maybe has a chaplain in the company, and understands the setting and mission of the church."

"The maturity of security officers and their ability to handle youth and large crowds, and their love for

the mission of the church" are vital considerations before enlisting their services. He continued: "Depending on the size of the event, the church also should have a rider added to its insurance coverage for the event." It is always a good idea for us to check with our church's insurance carrier to make sure we are covered because some of the "high-risk" activities that we do in student ministry may not be covered.

"High-risk" activities could include whitewater rafting, amusement park rides, rappelling, church league softball, and construction-based mission trips.

One major concern that some have with security firms is whether or not security personnel should be armed. That is something you will have to run past your pastor, trustees, legal representatives and insurance company, taking into consideration the crowd's size and makeup.

A major concern that many churches overlook, outside of Sunday morning, is parking, Decann said.

"The amount of cars parked on the lot and the theft of personal items that can be seen by just looking into the windows" should be considered, he added. Most students don't think about keeping personal items out of plain site. Sometimes girls will leave purses in the car so they don't have to carry them inside.

We need to make sure at youth events where there are hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars worth of stereo equipment in the cars in the parking lot that we provide security.

Another thing that makes church event security different from other events to which we need to pay particular attention, according to Decann, is "the attitude of the security officer and the idea that the officer is there to help the event and not to deter people from coming."

There is a difference in what we do from most other events that enlist security. We need to make sure we are up front with the security firm we enlist about the expectations.

*Joe Ball, a former youth minister at Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, is youth strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

### Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

### 'Two become one'

By Valerie Vincent

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24).



This is not an easy process. It requires significant work. Just as we are created to be like God (Eph. 2:24), to daily seek to become more righteous, more holy as God is, then we put forth effort to become one with our spouse.

The key is that both partners pursue growing their faith, becoming more like God, and fulfill being created in God's image. As Christ is that fulfillment, we seek to imitate Christ in our thoughts and actions. One version of Philippians 2:2 says, "Be united in what you think, as if you were only one person." When both partners are seeking to have the same mind as Christ, then the couple is striving to empty themselves of self and be filled with the desires of Christ. So the two move closer to oneness because they share the desires of Christ.

They seek to serve God with their lives, glorify God, please God, and become more like Christ. Because God has created every woman and man with such wonderfully unique qualities, the expression of servanthood will be different in order for the body of Christ, the church, to have her needs met. This is also true for the differences in marriage that ensure the needs of both partners are met. And so, Paul entreated that the body would be unified in the Spirit.

For the two to become one flesh does not mean one partner's uniqueness disappears and the other dominates. For domination comes from fear. It does not mean that one partner makes all the rules and the other obeys.

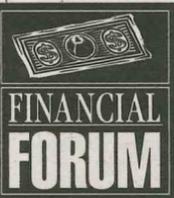
What it does mean is a couple enters into a powerful relationship where God draws each closer to Him and by doing so they grow closer, more intimate, always moving toward oneness, united in Christ similar to the unity of the trinity with three distinct persons.

*Valerie Vincent is a Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville.*

## Have you been losing money?

By Don Spencer

Are your retirement funds invested in stocks? Do you have money in a stock mutual fund? Do you own stock in a company?



If you answered yes, you've probably been concerned about recent losses. Stock market declines are no fun, but are a natural part of investing. Your reaction to declines plays a crucial role in your long-term investment success. History teaches that an investor who

is frightened into making big investment approach changes usually ends up with mediocre results.

Three important things to remember:

- No one can consistently predict when market declines or increases will happen.
- Most market declines are brief and, for a long-term investor, relatively painless. Yes, this downturn is deeper and longer than most. However, history shows that long-term stock investors still come out ahead.
- Successful market timing in a decline is extremely difficult; it requires two near-perfect actions—getting out and back in at the right times. Few people are successful in doing either consistently—even fewer can do both.

A common mistake investors make is to lose patience and get out of stocks near the bottom of a downturn. Many will see their recent losses and get out of stocks. Generally, those same people will watch as stocks go back up, only to move back into stocks as they approach their highs. Their financial results often suffer because both moves are at the wrong time.

Most people have heard that two things drive the market—fear and greed. Taking that concept a step further, realize personal decisions about investing are often driven by our own fear and greed, even though we don't like to use those terms to describe ourselves. Know why you are investing. Investing in stocks should be based on long-term goals. Don't change your investment strategy based on shorter-term market events.

*Don Spencer is a certified financial planner and directs the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church financial benefits department*

## Reflections on a mission trip to Haiti: despair and hope

By Tom Townsend

Upon returning from a mission trip to Haiti, I am caught in the reflections that a region so impacted by a major earthquake could provoke.

### FIRST PERSON

On the one hand, the capital city of Port-au-Prince sustained the worst of the devastation. According to United Nations' estimates, 3 million people were affected by the earthquake, 250,000 people died, 300,000 were injured and 1 million were left homeless.

Haiti is reportedly the poorest nation in the Americas, and the scars of the crisis are seen everywhere. There is no heavy equipment to be seen. Rubble is being removed by hired men who take sledge hammers and try to reduce the massive piles of concrete and steel to manageable sizes of debris that can be taken away by wheelbarrows and deposited on the street

for recycling.

The memory of buildings collapsing has caused the people to remain outside facilities with multiple stories. Banks have been forced to offer their services at smaller venues such as ATM machines or stand-alone buildings.

Tents and make-shift shelters line the roads and fill the neighborhoods to house residents who have no place else to stay. Poor sanitation is mixed with the dust and dirt of an island with no proper drainage, while storms add major challenges to their minimal comfort level.

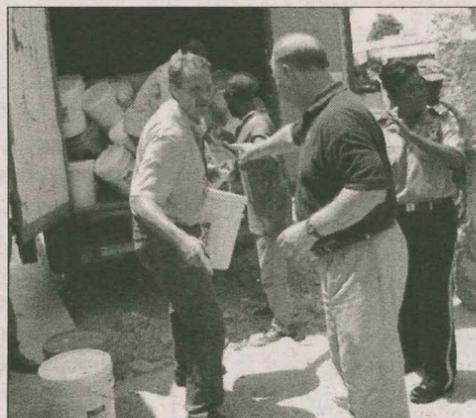
To the uneducated eye, it appears to be a hopeless situation.

On the other hand, I have not met Christians with a more positive walk with the Lord. The hunger for a closer walk with Jesus was reflected in their Bible study and worship experiences.

Dennis Wilbanks, associate director of Partnership Missions for the Florida Baptist Convention, stated that since the earthquake in January, there have been 162,306 professions of faith and 352 new churches started in Haiti. Signs of revival fill the atmosphere with anticipation of God's deliverance and sovereignty.

With half of the population under 20 years of age, it is a nation that will be defined by a generation about to assume the spiritual and political leadership of its future. In spite of the poverty and hardships, I am convinced that Haiti echoes the admonition of the Lord through the prophet Habakkuk: "Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told" (1:5).

*Tom Townsend is the marketing and business manager for the Western Recorder.*



**HAITI MISSION TRIP** ■ Left: Ron Wilson (left) and Tom Townsend unload Buckets of Hope at the women's prison in Port-au-Prince during a recent mission trip. ■ Right: More than 150 worship during a revival at Shalom Baptist Church in Port-au-Prince. (Photos by Greta Wilson)

## Ezell shares heart for adoption, NAMB church planting vision



**ADOPTION EMPHASIS** North American Mission Board presidential nominee Kevin Ezell (right) tells Buffy and Cissy McNickle that an anonymous donor paid off the couple's \$10,000 adoption debt for their twin boys. Ezell broke the news at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in June of which he was president. The Louisville pastor and his wife have adopted three children, each of them from a different country. (file photo)

Continued from page 1

Ezell said he first sensed God's call to ministry when he was a high school sophomore.

"My parents and pastor didn't really push me into it at the time," he recalled. "They believed that if it was a true calling of God, I would pursue it on my own."

That call was confirmed and solidified during his time as a student on a tennis scholarship at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

"I thought at the time that I would go into student ministry," Ezell said. He had served in student ministry at First Baptist Church of Paducah. The church's pastor at the time, J. Robert White, serves today as executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

With financial help from First Baptist, Ezell attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Nearing completion of seminary, God began turning Ezell toward senior pastor roles, although he said his first attempt at preaching was not exactly a success.

"It was a miserable experience," he recalled, laughing. "My wife called her mother and said she was praying about what kind of work she could do to support us."

But soon after that came a call from Hilltop Baptist Church in Fort Worth and Ezell became pastor of the congregation of seven. He specifically reached out to the growing Hispanic community near the church and by the time he left in late 1988, half of the church's 50 members were Hispanic.

Ezell led First Baptist Church of Hartsville, Tenn., from early 1989 to 1991. He served First Baptist Church of Marion, Ill., from 1991-1996.

When Ezell came to Highview in 1996, the church met on a single campus and averaged 1,200 worshippers on Sunday mornings. Today, Highview consists of seven campuses, two that meet across the Ohio River in southern Indiana. Two of the campuses consist of Hispanic congregations. One meets on campus at the University of Louisville. The church now averages more than 3,000 in worship attendance.

"We realized we were not going to reach Louisville from where we were located," Ezell said. "So, we were faced with staying where we were or relocating. We decided to do both."

Highview's separate campuses each have their own teaching pastors, but weekly staff meetings and accountability from Ezell keep the Highview culture and standards present at each campus.

"What has happened at Highview is that I have surrounded myself with great people," Ezell not-

ed. "I don't mind being the dumbest guy in the room."

Highview's 2010 missions giving goal is \$1.4 million, with \$582,000 being spent locally, \$150,000 nationally and \$700,000 internationally. The church's Website includes a calendar with more than two dozen mission events/trips scheduled for this year. Last year more than 500 of Highview's members participated in a mission trip.

Ezell has led Highview to start several new churches since becoming pastor. The church currently is funding eight church plants in Atlanta; Boise, Idaho; Clarksville, Ind.; Cleveland; Indianapolis (two churches); New York; and Philadelphia.

"All of our church plants are in major cities," Ezell said. "For too long Southern Baptists have put their churches in the same places while the Northeast, the West and Canada are underserved. When people have been in the same place too long, they can get stale. There is something invigorating in doing something new."

Ezell said he believes church planting success is more about finding high-quality planters and focusing on quality churches rather than quantity.

"I like to invest in young leaders and church planters. I like to find the right people more than invest in a particular city," he explained. "We've focused a lot on quantity, and I'm not sure Southern Baptists are buying that as the best way to measure it."

Ezell said his heart is in finding pastors and churches who want to plant churches and finding ways to get resources to them.

"The greatest unused resource we have are the pastors and the people of the Southern Baptist Convention. We need to get them invigorated to start churches," he pointed out.

"What we should focus on is developing sending churches and finding passionate pastors and allow them to plant churches," Ezell added. "There are people out there who are passionate about seeing people come to know Christ and passionate about starting churches. It's not about being a funnel but being an amplifier for those who are doing it anyway."

Ezell said his excitement about NAMB's new potential grew after passage of the Great Commission Resurgence recommendations at this year's SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

"The messengers really sent a message that they want NAMB to be focused on church planting. That really excited me—to look at North America and get as many people engaged in this as possible and give it our best shot." (BP)

**"For too long Southern Baptists have put their churches in the same places while the Northeast, the West and Canada are underserved."**

## La. Baptist exec challenges Ezell nomination

By Charlie Warren  
Arkansas Baptist News

Alexandria, La.—In a bold, unprecedented open letter, David Hankins, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, has called for North American Mission Board trustees not to elect Kevin Ezell, pastor of Louisville's Highview Baptist Church, as NAMB president.

Hankins said "a major flaw" disqualifies Ezell, the unanimous choice of an eight-person search committee, for the post.

"I believe you are being asked to elect a candidate who, while having many admirable qualities, is unqualified in one significant way," Hankins wrote. "Dr. Ezell's excellent credentials in areas such as character, family, leadership and theology do not compensate for the demonstrated lack of support for the mission of NAMB."

Hankins noted that despite Highview's annual \$6 million budget, "the financial contribution of the church, through the Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong Offering, has been marginal, at best."

"Consequently, one has to believe the anemic support of cooperative ministries has been a purposeful decision by the pastor and the church leadership," Hankins continued. "Dr. Ezell has indicated he believes this was a better way to reach their congregational objectives. Is that what Southern Baptists believe and what they expect from the leader" of NAMB?

Hankins said those who would presume to lead Southern Baptist entities ought to have a track record of supporting those entities.

According to the 2009 Annual Church Profile, Highview Baptist

Church reported giving \$140,100 (2.23 percent) through the Cooperative Program from total undesignated receipts of \$6,270,057. The church gave \$10,000 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions and \$50,000 through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions.

Emil Turner, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, affirmed Hankins' call for NAMB trustees to reconsider the recommendation.

"It seems surprising to me that the search committee would recommend someone whose level of support for the North American Mission Board through the CP and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering could not sustain the work of NAMB were it to be duplicated widely across the convention," Turner said.

"This is not meant as a personal attack on Dr. Ezell," Hankins assured. "I would have the same concern about any candidate for NAMB who had a similarly poor record on cooperative giving. There are many excellent pastors with an SBC affiliation who have chosen to go a more independent route with their churches' mission spending. I am thankful for every success they have brought to the kingdom, but I believe, by their negligible cooperative denominational giving, they have removed themselves from consideration as SBC entity leaders."

Hankins expressed concern that a NAMB president who has chosen an independent church model will "send a chilling message" to thousands of Southern Baptist churches who generously support CP and mission offerings.

**Deadline October 15!**

## CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Committee on Resolutions will be receiving resolutions to be considered at this year's annual meeting until October 15.

This year's meeting is to be held Nov. 16 in Lexington at **Immanuel Baptist Church.**

**RESOLUTIONS MUST:**

- Be typewritten, titled & dated
- Be accompanied by a letter or e-mail from a church qualified to send a messenger to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention certifying that the person submitting the resolution is a member in good standing
- Include complete contact information for the person submitting the resolution and his or her church. No person may submit more than three resolutions in a single year.

**IF YOU HAVE A RESOLUTION TO BE CONSIDERED:**

E-mail to: [executive@kybaptist.org](mailto:executive@kybaptist.org)  
(preferred method)

OR

Mail to: Committee on Resolutions  
c/o KBC Executive Office  
P.O. Box 43433  
Louisville, KY 40253



Executive Office  
502-489-3577 or 866-489-3577  
[www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting](http://www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting)

## NAMB staffers take day to 'focus' on helping refugee church

By Mickey Noah  
North American Mission Board

Clarkston, Ga.—The early morning rain has passed and it's 9 a.m. on another "Thankful Thursday" as dozens of refugees—in pairs, as families or in groups—stroll up to Clarkston International Bible Church.

Their smiling faces and the bright colors of their native dress belie the personal hardships many overcame for a new start in America. In some cases, they have escaped war, famine, disease, religious persecution and death in countries like Iraq, Sudan, Burma, Somalia, Liberia, Cambodia, Thailand and two dozen others. They are Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Coptic Christians and atheists.

Today, they're coming to learn English at the church.

While "Thankful Thursday" is a weekly outreach at the multi-ethnic church near Atlanta, this particular Thursday also is "Spiritual Focus Day" for some 230 staff members of the North American Mission Board who—for the second straight year—left their Alpharetta, Ga., offices to minister and share the gospel with immigrants.

Clarkston, a town of about 7,200 east of downtown Atlanta, has been a designated refugee resettlement site for thousands of legal immigrants who have poured into the United States over the years.

For five years now, Phil Kitchin has led CIBC, which on the outside—with its red brick and white steeple—resembles any other typical Southern Baptist church across the South.

However, it's anything but. "CIBC is unique," Kitchin said. "On Sun-



**SALVATION** Richard Harris (center), interim president of the North American Mission Board, was one of the 230 NAMB staffers who ministered in Clarkston, Ga., during its annual "Spiritual Focus Day" last month. Here, Harris and NAMB's Ritche Carney (right) lead 28-year-old "Jerrell" to Christ. (Photo by John Swain/NAMB)

days, this is like the United Nations. We have seven different language congregations. We have one English service, but with 20-30 different nationalities in attendance."

Kitchin said his right-hand man is NAMB Mission Service Corps missionary Kevin Riley, who helps minister to Clarkston's flock of multi-ethnic immigrants and who coordinated NAMB's recent visit.

"Not only does the community have refugees from all over the world, the local

Clarkston schools have students from at least 50 different countries," Riley noted. In the church's English (as a) Second Language class on Thankful Thursdays, dozens of languages are spoken.

"When NAMB's staff comes, it sends out the clear message that Americans are truly interested in the immigrants," Riley added. "We're not here for what we can get out of them. We're not trying to manipulate them. We want to give them something unconditionally—the gospel."

Before this year's Spiritual Focus Day was over, NAMB's street evangelism teams would comb apartment neighborhoods around the church, initiating 103 conversations with refugees, sharing the gospel 57 times, distributing more than 100 tracts in several languages and seeing eight decisions made for Jesus Christ.

A 28-year-old man, "Jerrell," was one of the eight residents led to Christ.

NAMB's interim president, Richard Harris, asked Jerrell if he meant it when he prayed to receive Christ. "If you did, and I think you did, your address just changed from hell to heaven," Harris declared. "Isn't that good? Now you're my brother."

NAMB staffers not only shared the gospel, they also undertook nitty-gritty physical chores as ways to minister to the refugees and make their difficult lives easier.

Donald King headed up a 12-person team who cleaned apartments for refugees about to move in to them.

As King vacuumed, Jill Noga and Linda Grimes scrubbed down bathrooms and Amy Signaigo washed windows, the four agreed on why they had signed up for the duty: to show the love of Christ "to the least of these," because even refugees want and deserve to move into a clean apartment.

Back at the church, other NAMB staffers cleaned, organized and restocked CIBC's food pantry.

"Every Wednesday we have a food giveaway for the homeless and the refugees. But we can't keep it stocked," Kitchin said. "We give food out to anyone who rings the doorbell and we give it away as fast we get it. We can always use more canned goods." (BP)

## Calls for revival prayer gain momentum

By Mark Kelly

Nashville, Tenn.—A wave of prayer for revival is beginning to sweep through evangelical Christian groups in the United States, and one veteran Southern Baptist leader said he believes spiritual awakening is America's only hope.

One of the new prayer initiatives—www.IfMyPeoplePrayUSA.org—is a 40-day prayer emphasis launched by the National Religious Broadcasters, an association of Christian ministries across the U.S.

Dean Evans, a Memphis businessman promoting the prayer challenge, compares the NRB initiative to the newspaper ads placed by New York businessman Jeremiah Lanphier in 1857. Lanphier's initiative was followed by a wave of revival that swept the eastern U.S.

"We're doing what Jeremiah Lamphere did. We're holding prayer meetings. We're asking other people to hold prayer meetings," said Evans, a member of Faith Baptist Church in Bartlett, Tenn., who is among a group of Memphis businessmen praying for revival in the U.S. "Jeremiah Lanphier put ads in the newspaper. That isn't quite cost effective for us today, but we knew the NRB would be a very cost-effective way to spread this message."

Evans' group approached his Sunday school teacher, Bill Skelton, the newly elected chairman of the National Religious Broadcasters' executive committee, about the idea. Skelton took the idea to NRB and the prayer initiative launched Sept. 1 with a variety of resources posted online at the website.

The NRB initiative joins a growing list of prayer calls among Southern Baptists, including Pray4SBC.com, a challenge issued by Southern Baptist Convention President Bryant Wright in mid-July that calls on church leaders and their congregations to take missions engagement to a new level.

In a video on the website, Wright, pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., asked for prayer that Southern Baptists would be "willing to do whatever it takes to reach more people for Christ than ever before, with a renewed passion on fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission to His church."

"Every movement of God in history was preceded by passionate, intercessory prayer," said Morris Chapman, president of the SBC's Executive Committee. "God promises to respond when His people seek Him through repentance, brokenness, humility and prayer."

Chapman, who retires Sept. 30 after 18 years in that role, bookended his tenure with nationwide prayer initiatives. He launched his ministry with the Watchman National Prayer Alert in 1992, and in 2009 issued a call to prayer and evangelism under the theme "One More Soul" as a way to support the challenge for a Great Commission resurgence among Southern Baptists.

"I long to see a great awakening ... come to our country during my lifetime. I rejoice that these prayer initiatives are capturing the interest and attention of God's people," Chapman said. "America's only hope is for the fresh wind of God's Spirit to sweep across our hearts, bringing genuine revival to our homes, our churches, our convention and our land."

In addition to the NRB's IfMyPeoplePrayUSA.org initiative and Bryant Wright's Pray4SBC.com campaign, other challenges to pray for revival include:

- Charles Stanley's 140 Days of Prayer, www.InTouch.org/Resources/140-Days-of-Prayer.

- The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission's 40/40 Prayer Vigil, www.ERLC.com/4040.

- The University of Mobile's twelve23 Prayer Movement for America, www.Twelve23.org. (BP)



## CU PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS CONFERENCE

### Characteristics of Effective Church Leaders

Designed for laypersons as well as pastors and other church staff ~ All are encouraged to attend.

September 23 & 24, 2010

Thursday, Sept. 23 – 2:00 p.m. First Session

Thursday, Sept. 23 – 7:00 p.m. Second Session

Friday, Sept. 24 – 10:00 a.m. Third Session

Breakout Sessions

Sept. 23 at 4:00 p.m. and Sept. 24 at 8:30 a.m. will focus on the theme with emphasis on:

*family, integrity, transparency, and loving the people*

Featured speakers: Rev. Fred Luter, Jr., senior pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans which has grown from 65 members to its current membership of 7,000 plus, and Dr. Hershael W. York, senior pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort, Ky., who *Preaching Today* has included among North America's most effective preachers. Dr. Alcingstone Cunha, associate dean and assistant professor of music in the CU School of Music, will serve as worship leader for all three sessions.

Register with the Office of Church and External Relations

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## Chinese pastor, wife slain inside Lottie Moon church

Penglai, China—A Chinese pastor and his wife were slain recently at Penglai Christian Church, where Lottie Moon, an icon of Southern Baptist missions work, served in the early 1900s in Penglai, China.

Pastor Qin Jia Ye and his wife, Hong En He, both in their 80s, were killed in the church's office Aug. 31. The suspect—a 40-year-old former church member—was arrested within an hour of the early-morning incident.

The couple's violent death is a shock to many, both in China and the U.S. The church was closed for 49 years after communists came to power at the end of World War II, reopening in 1988 with only 20 people. Today, there are 3,600 members.

Chinese newspaper accounts state that the suspect entered the church office carrying an axe and struck the pastor and his wife, killing them both.

The church eventually outgrew Moon's original structure and built a modern 1,500-seat sanctuary next to it with the help of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga.

"From the moment I met Pastor Qin, I could sense a Christ-like spirit," said Bryant Wright, Johnson Ferry's senior pastor and current Southern Baptist Convention president. "We are incredibly saddened by this tragic event, but we know one of the Lord's faithful servants is with Him forever in Heaven."

Qin graciously acted as tour guide for a large number of Southern Baptist leaders passing through Penglai who wanted to connect with the community where Moon served.

Wanda Lee, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, visited the church during a 1997 tour of China. In spite of numerous church responsibilities, Qin and his wife welcomed the group warmly, Lee said.

Candace McIntosh, executive director of Alabama WMU, took seven college students to China in 2008 to experience the history and work of Southern Baptists.

McIntosh recalled admiring Qin's humble and quiet strength as he prepared for worship, as well as his ability to state the message clearly for all to understand. After the service, Qin spent a great deal of time talking with the team of young women about Moon's legacy.

"He was so encouraged that younger women were there, learning about the history of Lottie Moon and the Chinese church," McIntosh said. "I know the legacy of Lottie Moon will live on, but one of its greatest communicators is no longer with us. I know Qin's legacy will live on, too." (BP)



Qin Jia Ye

## Cambodian Baptists seek partnerships

Union leader travels to U.S. to establish relationships among churches

By Mark Kelly

Nashville, Tenn.—God has blessed Baptist work in Cambodia—with 304 churches started since 1993—but partnership is needed for the work to move forward, the president of Cambodia's Baptist Union said.

Nivath Nhem, who was re-elected in 2010 for a second five-year term as president of the Cambodia Baptist Union, traveled to the United States in August to explore prospects for church-to-church partnerships that would help advance a plan to start 1,621 new congregations in the next five years. He was hosted by Albert Wardin Jr., emeritus professor of history at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

"We want to see every person in Cambodia accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord," Nhem told Baptist Press in a mid-August interview. "The goal of the Cambodia Baptist Union is to reach Cambodia with the gospel of Jesus Christ by planting churches throughout Cambodia."

Nhem led Cambodia's congregations to set a goal of reaching all 13,871 villages in the country and has challenged each church to reach that goal by starting a new congregation each year. He also has led them to establish goals of expanding the union's program of pastor training and starting general education schools for the nation's children.

"We need partners if the work is going to move forward," Nhem said. "We know these goals are (an) inspiration from the Lord. There is openness to the gospel in our country right now. We cannot delay because the door may close at any time. We must take advantage of this openness, but we need partners to do that."

Like neighboring Vietnam and Laos, Cambodia has a communist government and is traditionally Buddhist, but right now Cambodia is the country that is more open, Nhem explained.

"Cambodia is more soft than hard," he said.

"The people are more open to the gospel. There are some restrictions on our work, but the Baptist union is recognized by the government."

Thavy Nhem, a believer who is a member of Cambodia's parliament, helped start Baptist work in the country and still is an adviser to the Baptist union, which was organized in 1995.

The union has had a strong emphasis on church planting since its inception, and now has churches in 17 of the country's 24 provinces. Its 304 congregations have 13,238 members, and 50 of them have permanent facilities. The union operates pastor training schools in the capital of Phnom Penh and two provinces and wants to expand the training to five provinces in the next five years.

"We want to see the church grow and be established all over Cambodia. We want to see believers and churches be a blessing for Cambodia," Nhem said. "Our mission is for Cambodia to know that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God, that He is salvation when people accept Him as their Lord and Savior."

"If anyone feels led by the Spirit of God," Nhem urged, "we invite them to partner with us."

In the meantime, he requested prayer for the Baptist union's plans in starting churches and schools, and that they would be able to establish the physical facilities needed for progress. He also requested prayer for adequate finances and for the Lord to lead congregations into five-year church-to-church partnerships. (BP)

*"There is openness to the gospel in our country right now. We cannot delay because the door may close at any time. We must take advantage of this openness, but we need partners to do that."*

— Nivath Nhem, president of the Cambodia Baptist Union

## 'Where are you now?'

**How many times can a person get lost on his or her way to Oneida's campus?**

It's no secret that finding one's way to Oneida can be a challenge. Over the years I suspect that several hundred people have made at least one or two wrong turns trying to find their way to our campus.

For many of our international students, the narrow and curvy roads here in the mountains can be quite intimidating. I've had students tell me they scooted to the other side of the car because when they looked out the passenger side window, all they could see was a steep drop-off and/or a river just below them—but I have never quite understood how moving to the other side of the car was going to make much difference.

On a few occasions, I've received a call from a person telling me that he was in Oneida, but no one had any idea where our campus was. If you have ever been to Oneida, you know that is not possible. Our campus is nearly one-half of the village, so it's pretty hard to be here and not know where it is.

When I get one of those calls, I usually ask, "Where are you now?" When they tell me they are at the Oneida McDonalds, I know they have seen the big sign on I-75 that says "Oneida." Only one problem: That sign is in Tennessee—they have gone to Oneida, Tenn.

This past Sunday morning as I was waiting for my new students to arrive for orientation, we received a phone call from a mother who told us she was in Berea. When we asked her why she was at least 90 minutes away when the orientation video and tour were to begin in 30

minutes, she explained that her GPS had taken her in circles.

Well, to be honest, I have used a GPS enough to know that it does not always give the best directions, but I have never had a GPS simply take me in circles. The parent was told to do the best she could to come on and we would work with her even if she were an hour or so late.

Just before the orientation video was over—which takes about an hour and 15 minutes—and we were ready to begin our tour, the lost mother still was not here. Then the phone rang. I answered and the mother who had been led in "circles" by her GPS was on the phone. She exclaimed that she was lost again and did not know where she was. When I told her that I couldn't give her directions to our campus if she could not tell me where she was, she began describing the houses around her. Well, I'm not going to even comment on that.

She finally figured out that she was in a small community about 30 minutes from our campus called Lytleton. Even though I knew about where she was, I told her I could not give her the exact directions on how to get back on the main road, but if she could find her way back to Routes 421 & 11 I could give her directions from there.

Even though she was three hours late, I have to admit I was relieved to see that she finally made it to our campus. After the interview, I asked her several times if she was sure she could find her way back home. She assured me she could. I hope so.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972; www.oneidaschool.org; e-mail: president@oneidaschool.org

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

## 'I knew that was my sign'

**Student follows series of God's signs to campus**

For many of our students, some of the biggest struggles they have in their lives take place before they even get to campus. First-year student Jon Riggs from Madisonville knows about those struggles.

"God began dealing with me about two years ago, and I knew He was calling me to preach," Riggs said. "I kept putting it off, but God kept dealing with me and He just wouldn't leave me alone. I remember very clearly the Saturday night before I finally surrendered to preach. I told God if He would just give me one more sign that I really need to do this that I would make my call public the next day in church."

"After Sunday school the next day ... I remember sitting down and getting ready for the service," Riggs continued. "The pastor then steps to the pulpit and announces that his message for that service was going to be about serving the Lord with an open heart. Well, I knew that was my sign I had asked God to give me. I knew what I needed to do."

"When the invitation was given at the end of the service I went forward and announced to the church

that God had called me to preach, and I was publicly surrendering to His call on my life," Riggs recalled.

"I preached for a few months after that," he said. "But then some people from my area mentioned the possibility of Clear Creek to me. I came for a visit, prayed about it and felt this was where God wanted me to attend. Everything was going smoothly until it came time to finish paying for my initial school costs."

"I thought I was not going to be able to afford to come," Riggs said. "I told God that if this was where He wanted me to be, He was going to have to help me and show me what I needed to do. The next Sunday my pastor asked for a love offering from the church without me knowing it. The offering paid for all my initial school expenses and I even had some left over to help me with some other expenses. I'm thankful God shows us the way when we seek His will."

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Donnie Fox is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 300 Clear Creek Road, Pineville, KY 40977; toll-free: (866) 340-3196; Web site: www.ccbbc.edu; e-mail: dfox@ccbbc.edu

## Going 'beyond'

### Williamsburg student shares passion for children in need

This week's column is written by Emily Rose, a 16-year-old junior at Whitley County High School who attends Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg.

Going beyond; impacting lives; putting a burden with a passion to help spread the word of God. I am Emily Rose, and I am going beyond by mentoring middle school girls.

During my life, I have been taught that I am blessed to have the many necessary items that I have. These include food, clothing and a warm home in which to live. I try not to take these things for granted, and I am thankful to God for how He takes care of my needs.

I have attended Crossings at Jonathan Creek for the past three years. Last year I was introduced to "The Beyond Effect." The entire time I was at camp, I tried to think of a way that I could "go beyond," but nothing came to me.

The week after camp the next year, I went to Rogers Scholars, a scholarship program I had to complete that week. We were taught about leadership, entrepreneurship, technology and community service. At the end of the week,

I had to turn in a community service project I was planning on implementing during the year. I realized that I had a burden for children. Not just any group of children, but middle school kids. This was my "beyond effect!"

I once encountered a girl in my Mom's middle school class wearing dirty shoes and clothes that didn't fit. I soon learned she was wearing the only shoes she had—her Dad's shoes. The middle school kids I want to mentor should be the ones who have essential things such as clothing and shoes. I want to buy them one outfit at the end of the month.

I decided during the weekly meetings I would prepare activities to help build their confidence, such as makeovers, and use Bible scriptures to explain how beautiful they are to God. I want to let them know that someone cares about them, while also helping them with their homework.

I have a burden for middle school kids and a passion for helping people. I believe this project will help me reach my goal which is to help children and show them my love for God.

David Melber is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies. Contact him at Box 99918, Louisville, KY 42069-0918; phone (502) 491-7000.

### Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

## Oklahoma Ten Commandments display could carve new church-state path

By Michael Foust

Oklahoma City—Seven years after Alabama removed a Ten Commandments monument from a government building under a federal court order, the state of Oklahoma is preparing to erect its own Ten Commandments monument on capitol grounds, and supporters say they have the backing of recent Supreme Court precedent.

The Oklahoma legislature easily passed and the governor signed a bill last year allowing a Ten Commandments monument to be placed on the capitol grounds. The monument will use identical language and even an identical design to one on the Texas state capitol grounds—the same one the Supreme Court upheld in 2005.

That Supreme Court ruling was handed down two years after former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore was removed from office for refusing to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the state's judicial building. Moore's monument was privately funded, as is the one in Oklahoma. Rep. Mike Ritze, the bill's sponsor and a Southern Baptist deacon, said he and his family paid the roughly \$10,000 to construct the six-foot by three-foot monument. It also will cost about \$13,000 to erect it, money that is being raised using private funds.

"This is part of the historical heritage of our legal system, where we get our laws," Ritze, a member of Arrow Heights Baptist Church in Broken Arrow, Okla., told Baptist Press.

The state legislature's bill says the Ten Commandments are "an important component of the

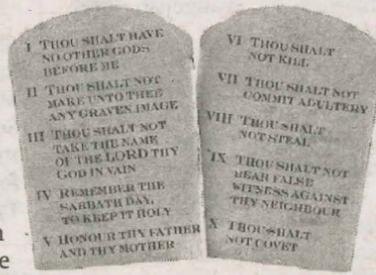
foundation of the laws and legal system" of the U.S. and Oklahoma and that federal and state courts "frequently cite the Ten Commandments in published decisions."

The bill also gives permission for the Liberty Institute, a Texas-based Christian legal group, to defend the monument if it ends up in court. The bill passed a Republican-controlled legislature and was signed by a Democratic governor, Brad Henry. Groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union and Americans United for Separation of Church and State had urged him to veto it.

The fact that a state is erecting a Ten Commandments monument at a time when federal courts still are split on church-state issues is significant. Just this year, Haskell County in Oklahoma was forced to remove its granite Ten Commandments monument following a decision by the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals—the same court that would consider any case concerning the Oklahoma capitol monument. Also this year, a different court—the Sixth Circuit—allowed a framed copy of the Ten Commandments to remain in the Grayson County courthouse. Each was part of a larger display of historical monuments or documents.

However, the Supreme Court has not been as clear on the issue.

The same day in 2005 the court allowed the Texas monument to remain, it also ordered framed copies of the Ten Commandments to be removed from two Kentucky courthouses. The Texas and Kentucky rulings were both 5-4 decisions. (BP)



## NATIONAL NOTES

**Judge says church can desecrate flag**—A federal judge has barred Nebraska from enforcing the state's flag-desecration law on members of a controversial church who claimed in a lawsuit the statute violated their constitutional right to freedom of speech. U.S. District Judge Richard Kopf ruled Sept. 2 that Margy Phelps-Roper and other members of Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., cannot be prosecuted as long as they "otherwise act peacefully while desecrating the American or Nebraska flag during their religiously motivated protests." The group uses the U.S. flag in symbolic speech stating its belief that God is using war to judge America for toleration of sins. Phelps-Roper sued state officials, claiming that a law passed in the 1970s making it a misdemeanor to cast "contempt or ridicule" by "mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning or trampling" on a flag is unconstitutional. Nebraska's flag law predated a 1988 Supreme Court decision that declared flag burning a form of symbolic speech protected by the First Amendment.

**Court: School should have funded worship**—The University of Wisconsin should not have prohibited the use of student funds for the worship-related activities of a Catholic campus group, a federal appeals court has ruled. The University of Wisconsin at Madison distributes funds from student fees for activities of registered student groups but rejected paying for worship, religious instruction and proselytizing by Badger Catholic. "A university cannot shape Badger Catholic's message by selectively funding the speech it approves, but not the speech it disapproves," wrote Chief Judge Frank Easterbrook of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the Sept. 1 decision. The 2-1 majority said the recent Supreme Court decision, *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*, left "no doubt" that the Wisconsin school should reimburse Badger Catholic programs it had rejected for funding. The higher court ruled in June that a Christian student group must

accept gays and non-Christians as members if it wanted to receive official recognition from a public university's law school.

**Judge dismisses suit against hate-crimes law**—A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit filed by a family advocate and three Michigan ministers challenging the constitutionality of a federal hate-crimes law enacted last October. U.S. District Judge Thomas Ludington dismissed the suit in which the plaintiffs claimed the Shepard-Byrd Hate Crimes Act violated their First Amendment rights to free speech. Specifically, the plaintiffs argued the act impinged on their right to speak out against homosexual behavior. The new law provides federal criminal penalties in cases of violence perpetrated against people because of their religion, race or sexual orientation.

**Report: Annual illegal immigration declining**—The number of illegal immigrants who enter the United States each year fell in the last decade, helping the total population of illegal immigrants level off and possibly decline, according to new estimates by the Pew Hispanic Center. The estimates show the average inflow of illegal immigrants was 850,000 each year from 2000-05, before falling to 550,000 annually from 2005-07, and then to 300,000 annually from 2007-09. Meanwhile, the total population of illegal immigrants rose sharply during much of the decade, from 8.4 million in 2000 to 12 million in 2007, before falling to 11.6 million in 2008 and to 11.1 million in 2009. Immigrants from Mexico account for about 60 percent of the undocumented population, according to Pew, although that segment, too, has seen a significant drop in annual illegal immigration, from 500,000 each year in the first part of the decade to an average of 150,000 each year from March 2007 to March 2009. There were about 6.7 million unauthorized immigrants from Mexico in the U.S. in 2009, Pew estimated.

## Baptist Army chaplain is first to be killed in combat since Vietnam

Arlington, Va.—An independent Baptist who died Aug. 30 in Afghanistan is the first United States Army chaplain to be killed in the line of duty since the Vietnam conflict, according to Army officials.

Capt. Dale Goetz, 43, was killed by a roadside bomb that exploded under his convoy. Goetz reportedly had been in Afghanistan less than a month. Four other soldiers perished alongside him.

An Oregon native, Goetz graduated from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Watertown, Wis., and the independent Central Baptist Theological Seminary of Minneapolis in Plymouth, Minn. His chaplaincy endorsement was through the American Council of Christian Churches, a coalition of small independent and fundamental denominations.

Goetz was stationed at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, Colo. He and his wife, Christy, have three sons, according to a tribute posted on Maranatha Baptist Bible College's website.

Jason Parker, Goetz's pastor at High Country Baptist Church in Colorado Springs, said the late chaplain "was passionate about seeing his soldiers turn from their sin and trust in Christ as their Savior. He wanted men to know the eternal joy of knowing Christ."

Goetz reportedly joined the Army in 2000, going there from the pastorate of a church in White, S.D. He also served a tour of duty in Iraq.

According to High Country Baptist Church, a trust fund has been established at a Colorado Springs bank in Goetz's name. Contributions will help "to provide quality, biblically sound books and other printed materials for chaplains to use in their ministry to the soldiers," a statement about the fund on the church's website says. "Dale always wished he had more good materials to distribute, so Christy would like to help meet that need for other chaplains through this fund." (ABP)

## Poll: Americans divided on Islam

Washington—Most Americans continue to know little about Islam, and people in the United States remain somewhat divided in their views of the religion, according to a recent poll by the Pew Research Center.

The poll found that favorable opinions of Islam have declined since 2005, and a slight majority of Americans do not want to see a mosque built near the World Trade Center site in New York. Pew said 51 percent of respondents objected to the mosque and 34 percent supported it.

Meanwhile, 62 percent said they believe Muslims should have the same rights as other religious groups to build places of worship, and 25 percent said local communities should be able to block mosques if they don't want them.

Eighty-five percent of respondents said they either don't know much about Islam or know nothing at all, and just 9 percent said they know a great deal. Pew found that 41 percent said they actually know someone who is Muslim. Knowledge of Islam and acquaintance with Muslims rose if respondents were college graduates or were younger. (BP)

**Retired  
Cumberlands  
professor looks at  
art of preaching in  
first book**

**Williamsburg**—Charles Mayer Dupier Jr., professor emeritus of geography, science, anthropology and religion at University of the Cumberlands, recently published "The Artful Science of Preaching," which takes a look at how a preacher may enhance or fail to enhance the effectiveness of his sermon simply by how it is delivered.

Dupier's book explores different techniques to deliver a sermon and offers suggestions on when it is most effective to use each of them.

"Leaving the matters of content and construction to the professors in the seminaries, what I want to do in this book is to concentrate on how sermons should be preached," Dupier explained.

Since he has been trained in the sciences as well as theology, Dupier said he believes good preaching contains elements of both disciplines.

"At bottom, preaching is an art," he said, "but there are also elements of it that can be regarded as a science, as something one learns to do by following certain rules and paying attention to common sense."

Dupier retired from teaching at Cumberland College in 2001. During his career and educational pursuits, he has served as a pastor at several churches. Retirement has allowed him to preach more and learn from listening to other preachers, he said.

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BUCKNER**—Buckner Church recently called **John Russell** as worship/music minister. He is a student at Southern Seminary in Louisville. **Lynn Traylor** is pastor.

■ **CADIZ**—Locust Grove Church will hold revival services Sept. 19-22 with **Jamey Ragle**, founder of Life Building Ministries, as evangelist. **John Hagan** is pastor.

Maple Grove Church will hold revival services Sept. 19-22 with **Lester Watson**, pastor of East Cadiz Church, as evangelist. **Ronnie Hooks** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSBURG**—Providence Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 19, 9 a.m., featuring former ministers as guest speakers. **Mike Huff** is pastor.

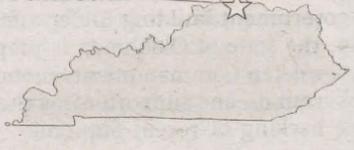
■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Campbellsville University's third annual Organ Recital Series will feature organist **Clif Cason**, director of music at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church in Lexington, Sept. 21, 12:20 p.m., at the Ransdell Chapel on campus.

Saloma Church will host guest speaker **Heriberta Torres**, missionary with the Southern Kentucky Hispanic Ministry Association, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. He will bring a report and update on Hispanic missions work in Southern Kentucky. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **HICKMAN**—East Hickman Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 19 with **Ben Stratton**, pastor of Farmington Church, as guest speaker. The church also will hold revival services Sept. 20-22. **Mark Lambert** is pastor.

**Spotlight on ...**

**Falmouth**



Short Creek Church will host Stand Firm: A Conference for Men Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m., and Sept. 18, 8 a.m. For more information, call Pastor **Brad Whiteford** at (859) 866-3430 or **Brian Tyree** at (859) 654-1606.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Gardenside Church will hold revival services Sept. 24-25, 7 p.m.; Sept. 26, 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m., with **Don Walton**, director of Time for Truth Ministries, as evangelist. **John Landon** is pastor.

■ **LIBERTY**—**Jeremy Atwood** recently resigned as pastor of Chestnut Grove Church.

■ **SALYERSVILLE**—First Church will host guest speaker **Clay Dyer**, a professional sport bass fisherman who has no arms and no legs, Sept. 22-26. **Matthew Gullion** is pastor.

■ **SPRINGFIELD**—New Hope Church will host the **Nelson Family** in concert Sept. 15, 7 p.m. For more information, call (859) 284-5202 or e-mail info@NewHopeSpringfield.org. **Cameron Jungels** is pastor.

■ **WALTON**—New Banklick Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 19, 9:45 a.m. **Calvin Perry** is pastor.

**Belmont president encourages full life**

**Campbellsville**—Sept. 11 broke Bob Fisher's heart—and he decided to do something about it.

Fisher, president of Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., lost his daughter's fiancé in the attack on the World Trade Centers in New York Sept. 11, 2001. Adam, 26, "lived life flat out," Fisher recalled. After Adam's death, Fisher and his wife, Judy, decided to work on a project to figure out how to measure life.

The Fishers conducted 104 interviews with patients in the Alive Hospice program who ranged in age from 5 to 98 and who had less than six months to live. From their

research came the book, "Life is a Gift: Inspiration from the Soon Departed."

Fisher recently told Campbellsville University staff about the lessons learned and discussed what really matters in life. "The dying need the community, and the community need the dying," he said.

He urged staff members to "be on the right track" and not just to be "living life like you are doing time." Fisher urged the audience to love deeper and speak sweeter.

"The greatest privilege in life is not about you," he said, "but it is who can you serve today."

**Welcome Wagon**



The Faith Riders from Corinth Baptist Church in London recently arrived at University of the Cumberlands to deliver school supplies to student Obed Pierre (front row, far right), a native of Haiti who served as a translator for a Kentucky Baptist disaster relief group. Faith Riders is a group of motorcycle enthusiasts who uses their vehicles as tools for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Pictured with Pierre are Faith Riders Bob and Beth Wyatt, Clellon Miracle, Kenneth and Paula Felty, Jerry and Madelyn Murray, Sam and Norma Watkins, and Rick Fleenor, University of the Cumberlands' assistant to the president. (submitted photo)



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**September**

- 18 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Pleasant View Baptist Church, Waynesburg.
- 18 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green; First Baptist Church, Russell.
- 20-21 Kentucky Baptist Ministers' Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf & Country Club, Georgetown.
- 21 Understanding Other Beliefs, Unity Baptist Church, Richmond.
- 23-24 Kentucky Baptist Men's Chorale Fall Retreat, First Baptist Church, Owensboro.
- 24-25 Kentucky Baptist Women's Chorale Fall Retreat, First Baptist Church, Owensboro.

**October**

- 1-3 FOCUS 2010, Cedarmore Camp & Conference Center, Bagdad.
- 7-9 Ministers in Transition, Louisville.
- 8-9 A Parent Privilege Conference, Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 15-16 Kentucky Baptist Nursing Fellowship Retreat, Cedarmore Camp & Conference Center, Bagdad.
- 20-22 Joshua Project Event, Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green.
- 21-22 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Northside Baptist Church, Mount Vernon.
- 23 Disaster Relief Blue Hat Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.

For more information, call (800) 266-6477 or visit www.kybaptist.org

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**FOR SALE:** Used pews, 12' to 14'. \$100 each; 2' to 7': \$50 each. Dark wood, padded seats (some need repair). Call Pete, Frankfort, Ky (502) 223-2959.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for First Baptist Church in Princeton, Ky. Resident members: 600+; average Sunday school attendance: 300; average worship attendance: 350. Opened new CLC building 2010. Please send resumé to: Bobby Goodwin, 10538 S Jefferson St., Princeton, KY 42445; or e-mail beg3757@att.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth minister/pastor assistant for rural church. Some experience required. Send resumé to Mexico Baptist Church, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth pastor for Hickory Grove Baptist Church, a dynamic, Christ-centered church located in Independence, Ky., serving a weekly average attendance of 700 and an active and growing youth group. We are prayerfully seeking the qualified individual God will call to lead and grow youth by rooting them in the church and community. Our minister will be an individual who has an all-consuming love for Christ, a strong knowledge of God's word, and the ability and desire to connect with teenagers and their families in a way that brings glory to God. If you feel God may be leading you in our direction, please prayerfully submit a resumé, along with an optional video of you leading a youth group to: Youth Pastor Search Committee, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, PO Box 505, Independence, KY 41051; or via e-mail to youth@hickorygrove.net no later than Nov. 1, 2010.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church in Clinton, Ky. Please send resumé and sermon on CD/DVD to pastor4fbc@yahoo.com; or mail to FBC, 320 Mayfield Road, Clinton, KY 42031.

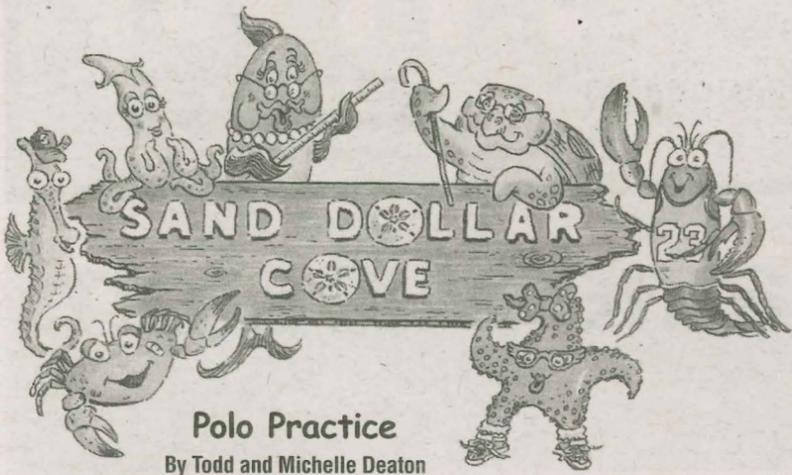
**SEEKING:** Passionate minister of the gospel to lead recreation/missions ministry at First Baptist Church (Owensboro, Ky.), a multi-generational downtown church with a commitment to

discipleship and missions. This leader must be able to use recreation to share the gospel within our congregation and community while leading members in caring for the physical temple. This leader must be able equally to lead of congregation in carrying out a comprehensive Acts 1:8 missions strategy, providing church members the opportunity to fulfill the Great Commission. Candidates are expected to share the philosophy of our ministerial staff and church as well as possess a positive record of teamwork. All applicants should send their resumé electronically to resume@fbcowb.org.

**SEEKING:** Liberty Avenue Baptist Church is seeking God's man who is called to be our youth pastor. The position will begin as part time and by the grace and power of God will grow into a full-time position as God grows His youth group and church. We have been and are praying for you; please pray, listen and obey. Send resumé: Liberty Avenue Baptist Church, 273 Mt. Vernon Road, Berea, KY 40403; or labc@windstream.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of family and community outreach for Great Bridge Baptist Church, located in Chesapeake, Va. This is a new and exciting opportunity for our church and community. Great Bridge Baptist is a family and mission-oriented church with an average attendance of 700-900. To learn more about our church and this ministry position, please visit our website at www.greatbridgebaptist.org. Prospective candidates should have a postgraduate degree from a reputable seminary and practical experience in the ministry field. Strong administrative and supervisory skills are required. Candidates should be capable of recruiting and training leaders; must be family and community focused and possess strong interpersonal skills. The ideal candidate should be creative and passionate about teaching and be able to participate in staffing the pulpit when needed. Interested candidates should submit their resumé to personnel@greatbridgebaptist.org.

**WANTED:** Set of handbells for David's Fork Baptist Church. If you are aware of someone that has a set they would like to sell or donate to our church, please contact Mickey at (859) 509-0929; or e-mail bro.mickeydfb@hotmail.com.



## Polo Practice

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

Ollie Oyster was sitting in his room reading the latest magazine about water polo, his favorite sport, when the doorbell rang.

"I'll get it, Mom," Ollie yelled as he ran to open the door for Lenny Lobster. At school, Ollie had shown Lenny some of his trading cards of famous players on the Sea Serpents water polo team. Lenny loved sports. So, when he showed an interest in Ollie's trading cards, Ollie invited Lenny to come over and see his whole collection.

"Awesome!" Lenny exclaimed as he walked into Ollie's room. His mouth gaped wide open as he scanned the many posters on the walls and two bookshelves filled with magazines, books and videos—all about water polo.

Ollie beamed with pride.

"I never knew you were such a sports fan," Lenny said, still looking around Ollie's room in amazement.

"I'm not," said Ollie. "I just like water polo."

"You must have every book ever written!" exclaimed Lenny.

"Almost," Ollie laughed. "I think it is a fun game."

"I don't know much about water polo," Lenny admitted. "It seems like a hard game to me."

"Not if you know how to play," Ollie said.

"Hey, why don't I get Seamore, Craig and a few others together and you can teach us how to play," Lenny suggested.

"Sure, just name the place and time," Ollie replied.

"How about tomorrow after school?" Lenny suggested.

The next day, Ollie arrived at the ball field with a wagon full of books and magazines, a bunch of videos, a VCR and a small TV. He began to look for an electrical outlet so he could play the videos, but there wasn't one.

"Did anyone bring an extension cord?" Ollie asked.

Seamore Seahorse shook his head.

Ollie passed out books about water polo and began to read aloud from a rulebook. Lenny and the others looked puzzled.

Craig complained, "I thought we were going to play, not read about water polo. This is too much like school."

"Yeah, Ollie, can't you just show us how?" Lenny added.

"Sure. Who has a ball?" Ollie asked.

"We didn't bring one," Seamore said.

"How do you expect to play without a ball and net?" Ollie asked.

"We thought you'd bring them," Lenny shrugged. "You're supposed to be teaching us."

"Didn't you bring yours?" Craig asked Ollie.

"I don't have a ball or net," Ollie admitted.

"I thought you said the game was fun," Lenny said.

"It is. But I never said I had played it," Ollie said.

"Then how do you know it is fun?" Lenny asked.

"I've read a lot of books and magazines about water polo, and I really like watching the Serpents' games on TV," Ollie replied.

"Reading about it is OK, I guess, but it would be more fun with a ball and net," Lenny suggested.



## Treasure Hunt

What sport did Ollie Oyster find interesting?

What did Lenny Lobster ask Ollie to do?

Do you think he knew how to play?

Do you think he was a good teacher?

Read James 1:22 together.



## For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



## Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



## Bible Crosswords

### Across

- 1 "We should be made \_\_\_\_" (Titus 3:7)
- 5 "Now I have prepared ... all manner of precious stones, and \_\_\_\_ stones in abundance" (1 Chronicles 29:2)
- 10 Each, abbr.
- 11 "I entreat thee also, true \_\_\_\_ fellow, help those women" (Philippians 4:3)
- 14 Federal Aviation Agency, abbr.
- 15 "This \_\_\_\_ said, I am able" (Matthew 26:61)
- 17 Laughter sound
- 18 "A meat offering baken in a \_\_\_\_" (Leviticus 2:5)
- 20 Unit of verse measurement
- 22 District of Columbia, abbr.
- 23 Letter after em
- 24 Timothy, for short
- 25 Hare
- 27 Railway, abbr.
- 28 Do, \_\_\_\_ mi
- 29 Kilogram, abbr.
- 30 "This \_\_\_\_ the day which the Lord hath made" (Psalms 118:24)
- 31 "All things \_\_\_\_ together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8:28)
- 32 The self, according to Freud
- 34 Common Era, abbr.
- 36 Louise, for short
- 37 Matured
- 38 Springfield's state, abbr.
- 39 "A time to weep, and a time to \_\_\_\_" (Ecclesiastes 3:4)
- 41 Pierre's state
- 42 Paid, abbr.
- 43 Capital of Tibet
- 46 "I, John ... was in the \_\_\_\_ that is called Patmos" (Revelation 1:9)

1	2		3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10			11		12	13		14		
		15				16		17		
18	19				20		21			22
23			24			25			26	
27			28			29			30	
		31				32		33		34 35
	36				37					38
39				40			41			42
		43			44	45			46	47
48	49				50		51			
52			53	54		55			56	
			57							

- 48 "As many as they found, both \_\_\_\_ and good" (Matthew 22:10)
- 50 "My fellow \_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus" (Philemon 23)
- 52 "Thou shalt not muzzle the \_\_\_\_ when he treadeth out the corn" (Deuteronomy 25:4)
- 53 Gym class, abbr.
- 55 Iridium, chemical symbol
- 56 To-do
- 57 Joined himself to a \_\_\_\_ of that country (Luke 15:15)
- 79 "Lest at \_\_\_\_ time thou dash thy foot against a stone" (Matthew 4:6)
- 21 Tattered
- 22 "And the \_\_\_\_ were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)
- 24 "Emptied her pitcher into the \_\_\_\_" (Genesis 24:20)
- 26 Two, prefix
- 31 "They \_\_\_\_ have repented long ago" (Matthew 11:21)
- 33 Exclamation of pain
- 35 "The four and twenty \_\_\_\_ ... fell down and worshiped God" (Revelation 19:4)
- 36 Californian city, abbr.
- 39 Work
- 40 Sound of laughter
- 44 South America's language, abbr.
- 45 Western state, abbr.
- 46 Independent Order of Foresters, abbr.
- 47 A blunt nose
- 49 "Now also the \_\_\_\_ is laid unto the root of the trees" (Matthew 3:10)
- 51 Anger
- 53 Greek letter used for the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter
- 54 And, Lat.

## Last week's solution

1	B	R	O	2	J	4	S	6	O	7	8	9
L			10	H	E	R		11	G	E	T	A
13	E	Y	E	S	R	R		16	N	O	T	
17	S	O	R	T	S		18	H	A	N	D	I
S	R	A		21	L	O	V	E		22	N	O
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
51	P	I	G	M	A	S	A	R	K			
I	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
53	E	T	L	E	N	D	O	R	E	T		

Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems  
2722 Crittenden Drive ♦ Louisville, KY 40209-1114  
Phone (502) 635-0002 ♦ <http://www.kentuckyleague.org>



# Different Names. Same Mission.

1914 - Anti-Saloon League of Kentucky



1951 - The Temperance League of Kentucky



2002 - The Kentucky League on Alcohol & Gambling Problems



2005 - The Kentucky League on Alcohol & Gambling Problems  
and  
The Kentucky Ethics League

From its inception, the mission of the League has been to extend the work of the church in concern for the total welfare of mankind. The League supports and encourages Christian action on moral issues with special emphasis on correcting the problems caused by alcohol and gambling.

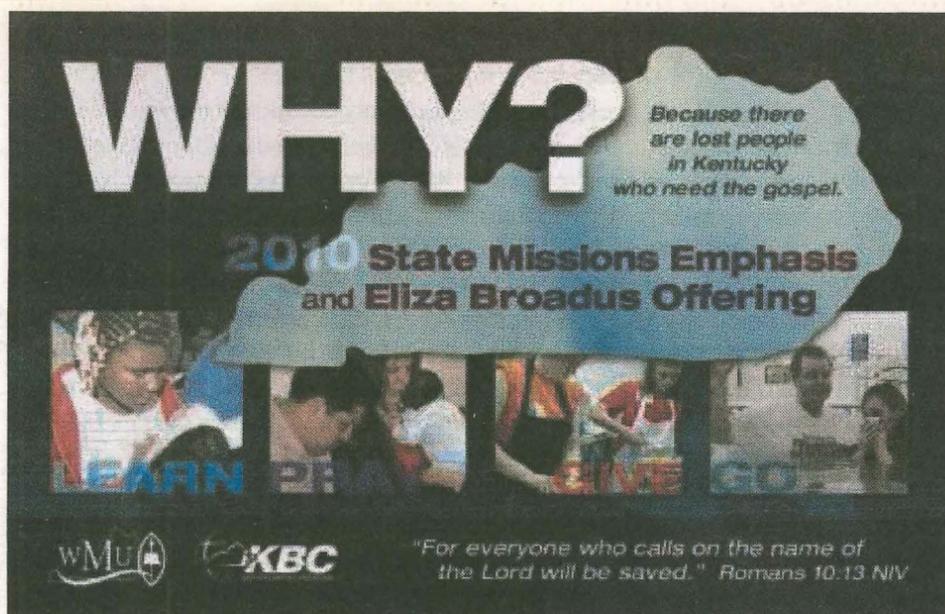
## How does the League fulfill this mission?

- ➔ *By raising citizen awareness of the economic, moral, and social problems caused by alcohol and gambling.*
- ➔ *By lobbying in the Kentucky Legislature to stop the expansion of alcohol availability and gambling.*
- ➔ *By assisting communities in their local option elections.*
- ➔ *By providing information, materials, statistics, and resources.*

**We need your prayers and your financial contributions to continue this important work.  
Please help us to maintain a strong and effective voice in our state.**

*Donations to The Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems are NOT tax deductible, due to our lobbying activities.  
If you would prefer to make a tax-deductible contribution, please send it to the The Kentucky Ethics League.*

KE



# 2010 Season of Prayer for State Missions

and

## Eliza Broadus Offering Goal: \$1,200,000

During the 2010 Season of Prayer for State Missions, Kentucky Baptists are seeking answers to vitally important questions – *Why Learn?* *Why Pray?* *Why Give?* *Why Go?*

The Glenmary Report, “Religious Congregations and Membership in the United States 2000,” provides some answers. According to this research, only 53.4% of Kentuckians adhere to some

religious group, only 34% are members of a church, and only 12.1% worship each week. The answer to “why” is because there are lost people in Kentucky. Yet God has promised, “For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:13).

As we explore *Why Learn?*, we find that missions education can transform a young life and make a lasting

impression. As we ask, *Why Pray?*, we begin to see the tremendous impact that prayerwalking can have on individual lives and on churches. By asking *Why Give?*, we find that international students experiencing the love of Christ on college campuses in Kentucky are taking the gospel to countries throughout the world. In answering *Why Go?*, we find a direct challenge to Kentucky

Baptists to enter the numerous mission fields across our state.

Join in the adventure of asking *Why?* Then come along and learn about the wonderful ways God is working through missions in Kentucky.

**“For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**  
Romans 10:13 NIV

### Why Learn?

If you ask a missionary or WMU® leader about their calling, they will probably tell you they began hearing God’s call to missions as a child. Through mission groups in their church, they learned to express their love for Christ and others. By studying about different cultures and praying for missionaries, they developed a broad worldview and realized God loves everyone. As they established strong roots of faith, they grew sensitive to the voice of God. Consequently, they have lived their lives walking one step behind Jesus.

“Missions has been a part of my life since I was a preschooler,” said Laura Morris, WMU Director and Girls in Action® (GA®) leader at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Louisville. “As a GA, I had tremendous leaders who mentored me into positions of leadership and servanthood. Participating in mission action taught me to have a compassionate heart for others.” Laura also attended GA camp where she “spent time in God’s Word and listened to Him under the trees at Cedarmore.”

At Bethlehem Baptist Church, GAs are divided into two groups: 1st & 2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade. GA meetings begin with the girls repeating the GA pledge, motto and Bible verse. A guest missionary or someone within the church who has gone on a mission trip to an area the GAs are studying is often invited to share their experiences. GA missions projects include collecting items for Christmas in August or the homeless, handing out bottled water with missions information (along with an invitation to GA meetings) or hosting a Children’s

Ministry Day project to encourage unchurched kids to join a missions activity.

Church missions groups provide many opportunities to teach children about Jesus and His saving grace. “A majority of the Girls in Action in our church come from unchurched families,” she said. “One girl who moved here lived in a very chaotic household. She was very withdrawn and self-conscious when we met her. Through her involvement in GAs, she began to come out of her shell. She began participating and laughing and joking with the other girls. Recently, she experienced another upheaval and her family moved out of state. We know, however, God has a plan for her and the love she experienced here will go with her wherever she is. God is pursuing her and we are so blessed He included us in His plans for her.”

“We spend a lot of time sharing about God’s love. One of the greatest joys has been teaching the girls to pray. Many of our GAs have become Christians in the past couple of years and have moved on to Acteens.”

Through opportunities in missions groups, children develop confidence and leadership skills and learn the importance of teamwork. For example, GAs at Bethlehem run a Lottie Moon Post Office and Lottie’s Latte (a gift and coffee shop) during the month of December to raise money for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. “The GAs create crafts for the gift shop, welcome customers and sort Christmas cards,” Laura said. “They take great pride in stamping and delivering cards (for 25 cents each) to fellow church members.” Over 3,000 cards

were delivered in 2009. The girls raised \$2,367.86.

Promoting missions offerings within the church also provides opportunities for leadership. “For each missions offering, the girls lead a missions moment during a worship service,” Laura said. “They help plan the presentation and do most of the speaking themselves. The Acteens frequently share about missions and their missions experiences. Our church members are consistently impressed by the poise these girls have.”

Learning about God’s love in mission groups helps children identify with people from different cultures and understand that God loves everyone. “Recently, the GA girls were learning about a people group with no running water or electricity,” Laura said. “The ladies washed their clothes in a stream fed from melting snow from a mountain top. We provided the girls a similar experience by washing clothes in a bucket of icy water. While most of these girls live in poverty, they had empathy for ladies across the world living with much less.”

“A blessing of leading GAs is meeting girls that are curious about God and exploring their relationship with Him,” said Trina Cox, also a GA leader at Bethlehem Baptist. “Sometimes the girls are here because they really have no other place to go which opens the door to minister to them and their parents. GAs build character as the girls learn from the Bible what God expects us to be and then practicing it at home, church and school. We see the girls mature in their faith and become empowered by God to live the way He wants.”



Above: GA leaders and members help serve lunch to the homeless at Hotel Louisville during their 2010 Children’s Ministry Day Project. Below: GAs are all smiles during camp at Cedar Crest.



# WHY?



# WHY?

**"Our people get it now... They realize people...really do need the Lord."**

Skip Alexander, Senior Pastor Campbellsville Baptist Church

## Why Pray?

In John 15:5, Jesus says, *I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

Prayer fulfills our deepest need - one-on-one communication with the heavenly Father. When we pray, God responds by miraculously healing the sick, saving souls and changing lives.

Perhaps the greatest demonstration of faith in prayer by Kentucky Baptists occurred during the prayerwalking events by our churches and associations in preparation for "Find It Here," a statewide gospel "sowing" event spearheaded by the Kentucky Baptist Convention in March 2010.

"Prayerwalking is important because we see and hear things that help us know how to specifically pray," said KBC State Missions Director Eric Allen. He often shares a story in workshops about a lady from Tennessee who noticed a plastic recycling tub filled with whiskey and beer bottles while prayerwalking. "She began to weep because she was raised in the home of an alcoholic and now she knew exactly how to pray for this family."

"The primary result of the prayerwalking process I have seen is the testimony of those that feel their spiritual lives have been

deepened and enriched by getting deepened and enriched by getting out of the church and into the streets to pray for the people in their communities," said Dr. Larry Baker, KBC Missions Growth Team Leader.

"The prayerwalking has fueled some to begin praying by name for individuals they suspect are lost. On several occasions, people engaged during the prayerwalking have prayed to receive Jesus. Many people have indicated their prayer lives have moved to a new level of intensity because of their prayerwalking experiences."



Skip Alexander, Senior Pastor at Campbellsville Baptist Church, has also observed the transformational nature of prayerwalking. In preparation for the "Find It Here" event, approximately 130 members of his congregation prayed for over 1,800 homes. "Our people get it now," he said. "They have seen streets and communities like they have never seen them before. They realize people are living in those homes who really do need the Lord. One family shared it was the most spiritually meaningful event they have ever done as a family."

Kenneth Puckett, pastor of Rosebower Baptist Church in Paducah, also reported a heightened awareness of the urgency

of sharing the gospel with people who do not attend church. His congregation sent out over 90 prayerwalkers divided into four teams with captains. "My wife remarked, 'prayerwalking makes us more *people conscious*.' As we walked up and down streets and looked at houses with folks moving about, coming and going, we thought of them as eternal souls who needed Jesus."

Other prayerwalking teams were blessed by a divine appointment. When a team from First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon began a conversation with a man, he asked them to pray with his son who was diagnosed with cancer. Entering the home, they talked and prayed with his son. After Pastor Eddie Nation made two more visits, the man accepted Christ and was later baptized.

Members of a Northside Baptist Church prayerwalking team were shocked to find a house with boarded up windows on a city street near the church in Mt. Vernon. After they realized a woman and her two children were living in the home with electricity in only two rooms and no running water, the prayer-walkers petitioned the city for help. They also went back to take the family shopping for food and gifts at Christmas.

The "Find It Here" process also challenged individuals to set new prayer-walking goals. A KBC staff member committed to

prayerwalk and prayerdrive all of Shelby County before the event. Working systematically, he prayed primarily on Saturday mornings. "My map was rather colorful as I marked each day's prayerwalking with a different color Sharpie," he said. "I usually carried a copy of the section of the map to ensure I was praying over every street and road."

"Prayerwalking will help churches really see their communities and understand the agonizing truth of the vastness of lostness in Kentucky," he said. "I have heard of some who have used walkers and wheelchairs. If you can't walk, drive-by praying is a possibility. Prayer will change the way you see your communities and will deepen your spiritual lives and commitment to pray. You will find yourself talking to the Father and seeking His face with greater intensity. It does not matter what size church you attend. A few people can impact their communities if they are committed to pray."

"In our communities, it is not uncommon to see drug trafficking, illicit sex, perversion, child abuse, robberies, rape, injustice of all kinds, unethical business practices, murder, disrespect for authority, disregard for the church of Jesus Christ, etc.," said Eric Allen. "We must take prayer to the streets where Satan's activity is taking place if we expect God to transform our communities."

**The Writer:** Shirley Cox is a Mission Service Corps missionary and free-lance writer from Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. Shirley writes regularly for *Missions Mosaic*.

Please note: The 2010 *Why? DVD* complements this article. A copy of the DVD has been sent to each pastor and WMU director.

This insert made possible by the gifts of your church through the Cooperative Program and the Eliza Broadus Offering. It was adapted from the Master Article included in the 2010 *Why? State Missions Packet*.

### Average Church Attendance in Kentucky - By County - Glenmary Report 2000

Adair .....	14.3%	Edmonson .....	3.5%	Knox .....	11.2%	Nicholas .....	10.0%
Allen .....	10.2%	Elliott .....	2.9%	Larue .....	19.1%	Ohio .....	21.0%
Anderson .....	16.9%	Estill .....	16.0%	Laurel .....	11.3%	Oldham .....	10.0%
Ballard .....	25.4%	Fayette .....	10.0%	Lawrence .....	6.0%	Owen .....	22.0%
Barren .....	15.4%	Fleming .....	11.5%	Lee .....	13.3%	Owsley .....	9.8%
Bath .....	11.4%	Floyd .....	9.4%	Leslie .....	10.5%	Pendleton .....	14.0%
Bell .....	15.8%	Franklin .....	14.9%	Letcher .....	8.6%	Perry .....	10.2%
Boone .....	11.3%	Fulton .....	22.7%	Lewis .....	5.2%	Pike .....	8.6%
Bourbon .....	13.1%	Gallatin .....	7.8%	Lincoln .....	17.9%	Powell .....	11.0%
Boyd .....	14.4%	Garrard .....	12.9%	Livingston .....	22.4%	Pulaski .....	17.8%
Boyle .....	19.2%	Grant .....	8.0%	Logan .....	23.5%	Robertson .....	6.9%
Bracken .....	7.6%	Graves .....	25.4%	Lyon .....	20.8%	Rockcastle .....	13.0%
Breathitt .....	7.1%	Grayson .....	5.0%	Madison .....	12.0%	Rowan .....	7.7%
Breckinridge .....	16.5%	Green .....	22.3%	Magoffin .....	5.8%	Russell .....	17.0%
Bullitt .....	10.1%	Greenup .....	10.3%	Marion .....	9.0%	Scott .....	11.3%
Butler .....	19.7%	Hancock .....	21.2%	Marshall .....	28.0%	Shelby .....	13.2%
Caldwell .....	26.7%	Hardin .....	12.2%	Martin .....	6.7%	Simpson .....	18.5%
Calloway .....	21.7%	Harlan .....	11.0%	Mason .....	15.0%	Spencer .....	9.9%
Campbell .....	7.9%	Harrison .....	12.0%	McCracken .....	18.0%	Taylor .....	20.7%
Carlisle .....	22.9%	Hart .....	11.9%	McCreary .....	5.0%	Todd .....	21.3%
Carroll .....	8.7%	Henderson .....	14.5%	McLean .....	17.0%	Trigg .....	21.9%
Carter .....	5.6%	Henry .....	12.1%	Meade .....	8.0%	Trimble .....	12.1%
Casey .....	12.6%	Hickman .....	28.3%	Menifee .....	11.0%	Union .....	11.3%
Christian .....	11.8%	Hopkins .....	15.0%	Mercer .....	18.0%	Warren .....	20.0%
Clark .....	12.8%	Jackson .....	7.3%	Metcalfe .....	14.0%	Washington .....	14.2%
Clay .....	8.8%	Jefferson .....	8.3%	Monroe .....	22.0%	Wayne .....	13.9%
Clinton .....	18.1%	Jessamine .....	12.9%	Montgomery .....	15.0%	Webster .....	16.5%
Crittenden .....	15.2%	Johnson .....	8.0%	Morgan .....	5.8%	Whitley .....	16.0%
Cumberland .....	22.0%	Kenton .....	6.9%	Muhlenberg .....	18.1%	Wolfe .....	8.0%
Daviess .....	12.2%	Knott .....	7.1%	Nelson .....	9.0%	Woodford .....	15.3%

## Why Give?

Through the generous giving of Kentucky Baptists, the Eliza Broadus Offering is making a tremendous impact on many ministries across the state. Each year, 100% of the Eliza Broadus Offering is used for missions in Kentucky. The offering helps to strengthen established ministries, fund evangelism, and to encourage and support grassroots missions efforts that might not otherwise succeed. One of the ministries funded through the Eliza Broadus Offering is Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) which ministers to thousands of students on 36 college campuses in Kentucky.

"We simply could not do ministry without the money God provides through the Eliza Broadus Offering," said Lizzie Spence, Collegiate/Young Adult Ministry Specialist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "The impact of these dollars on our Baptist Campus Ministries is seen in our international and summer missions, mission trips and evangelism emphases/outreach events on our local campuses. A key component of our statewide strategy has been to develop a sustained outreach ministry to the thousands of students who come from all around the world to study."

The Eliza Broadus Offering also helps to fund five to six semester missionary positions each year on the campuses of the University of Louisville, the University of Kentucky, Murray State University and Western and Northern Kentucky Universities. The semester missionary program works in partnership with NAMB. "Semester missionaries are the hands and faces of the Eliza

Broadus Offering as these student missionaries provide ongoing care, witness and outreach on our campuses," Spence said.

"EBO also provides materials, meals and other valuable resources on the local campuses," she said. "In addition, we are able to assist local BCM groups for mission trips for Fall, Winter and Spring Break and for local evangelism projects. Many of our students experience missions for the first time when they come to college. Others who have a background with missions from their local church develop a strengthened passion for sharing the Gospel. Our aim is to reach the students with the Gospel so when they return to their native country, they will be native missionaries."

At Campbellsville University, approximately 230 of the 850 resident students enrolled are internationals. Kei, a student from Tokyo, Japan, is one of the students that Campus Minister Ed Pavy has watched God transform. Kei came to CU in January 2007 to study English as a Second Language. "He participated in the 'party scene' but also became friends with Christian students," Pavy said. After his

roommate invited him to church and witnessed to him, God spoke to Kei through a dream. "I was at a cave and inside was full of darkness," he said. "I was so scared because I could not see anything around me. I told my friend about the dream and he said, 'Jesus said, I am the light of the world. He that follows me,



International students smile as they participate in BCM activities.

shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.' (John. 8:12) Three days later, I accepted Christ."

Until his return to Japan earlier this year, Kei served on the BCM Council and was involved in the Caf ministry, a ministry that seeks to build relationships in the cafeteria during lunch and dinner hours at CU. Initially, he enlisted four or five other students to provide leadership for the ministry. Under his leadership, the ministry grew to include 14 pairs of students.

"It's really important to build relationships with non-Christian people," he said. "We can just take them to worship service or church but they don't really try to understand if we are not close to them."



Kei, a student from Tokyo

Edwina Rowell, who teaches in the English as a Second Language Institute (ESLI) at Campbellsville University, says of the international students, "They come from all continents and bring their faiths with them. I am aware of three students who have accepted Christ during our ESL studies in the past four years. These students have found peace in their lives and true happiness and they have used their lives to help others in such positive ways."

Through field trips, the ESL students are also involved in



volunteering off campus. "During these trips we pray before meals and at times have the on-site leaders talk about their work at that particular place. Students are thus hearing about how God calls a person to ministry and how God works in their lives," Rowell explains.

"Our classes went to Eastern Kentucky and spent two days painting trailers and cleaning the grounds of a church," Rowell said of a recent trip. "Baptist Campus Ministries also shepherds students who make professions of faith, incorporating them into mission trips, campus worship service and Bible studies in the dorms."

The Eliza Broadus Offering is also making an impact on the campus of the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg. "Due to Eliza Broadus funding last year, we were able to get a special speaker from Outreach Events to share the gospel on our campus through our Spring Renewal Services," said Dean Whitaker, Campus Minister. "Thirty five students received Christ."

"Churches must continue to support the Eliza Broadus Offering, which supports Baptist Campus Ministry as well as hands-on missions opportunities," he added. "Missions education is truly about having God open our hearts to His heart for the nations."

## Why Go?

Kentucky Baptists are witnessing a phenomenal movement of God as men and women are packing their clothes and heading to mission fields across Kentucky. Churches are sending out mission teams to work with existing ministries. According to estimates, 26,000 short-term volunteers served in Kentucky in 2009 and it is estimated for every 10-12 volunteers, there is one profession of faith.

"Volunteerism has made a huge impact on missions in Kentucky," said Teresa Parrett, a NAMB missionary who serves as Missions Mobilization Coordinator for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "As volunteers come

and work alongside our missionaries, they provide much needed manpower to reach the people. Volunteers also help teach, disciple and encourage those they minister to and are a big encouragement to missionaries that serve long hours in difficult places. Instead of only serving in summer mission projects, volunteers now serve year round in our churches, associations and ministry centers."

Short-term missions opportunities in Kentucky for churches and individuals include: working in Vacation Bible School, Backyard Bible Clubs, Block Parties, door-to-door evangelism, prayer walking or driving, church

construction, home repair, music, sports camps, clowning, food and clothing ministry, nursing home ministry, homeless shelters, prison ministry, Job Corps ministry, children/youth ministry, senior adult ministry or ministry to mentally challenged adults.

"Whatever gift, skill, or talent anyone has, we can usually find a

place for them to serve in Kentucky," Parrett said. "Churches and/or individuals can also help our missionaries in community outreach by donating food, clothing (large sized clothing and men's clothing are especially needed), hygiene items, underwear and socks, gloves, mittens, scarves,

(continued p. 4)



Judy Phillips, Coordinator, is all smiles during the April 2010 Touched Twice Clinic in Shelbyville, a direct result of a 2009 mission trip.

## WHY?

***It's really important to build relationships with non-Christian people. We can just take them to worship service or church but they don't really try to understand if we are not close to them.***

Kei, student from Tokyo

***Volunteerism has made a huge impact... As volunteers come and work alongside our missionaries, they provide much needed manpower to reach the people.***

Teresa Parrett, Missions Mobilization Coordinator

blankets, quilts, pillows, bed linens, cleaning supplies, household items, new mom packs, diapers, Bibles, children's books, school supplies, baby items, toilet paper/paper towels and women's hygiene items."

In June 2009, Salem Baptist Church, a small church in Shelbyville with an average Sunday School attendance of 80, sent a team of 20 volunteers to work in a medical clinic in Lynch a small town in Eastern Kentucky. The group worked under the leadership of Mike Ware, regional director for Touched Twice United, a missions organization that offers free medical checkups.

"We were very supportive of missions financially, but not with our hands and actions," said Judy Phillips, a member of Salem Baptist Church and Missions Involvement Leader for Shelby County WMU. A nurse, Judy and several others performed medical testing and taught medical education at the clinic in Lynch. Others ministered through prayerwalking, praying with individuals and through direct evangelism. Several team members worked in VBS, sharing scripture with the children through crafts, stories and puppets. The volunteers also transported people to the clinic and worked with a KBC Disaster Relief unit, helping prepare and serve food to over 600 volunteers and 600 guests attending the clinic on Friday and Saturday.

"Before we left Eastern Kentucky, we had our next mission trip planned," Judy said. "We were inspired by meeting great believers and the thankfulness of the guests and the love they showed us while we were there. This trip made us realize how blessed we are and how much we have to give, not just financially, but in other ways. After returning from the clinic, it just didn't seem enough for us to be collecting items and sending them off. I felt direction from God to get people physically involved."

After the trip to Lynch, volunteers from Salem Baptist Church helped feed a Thanksgiving meal to 1,000 people. "We collected frozen and cooked turkeys to serve and clothing for their clothes closet." From contacts made in Eastern Kentucky, a team from Salem also participated in a medical clinic in the Portland section of Louisville. Later, the Salem Ladies Bible study group served a Christmas meal at a men's shelter in Shelbyville.

As a result of the mission trip to Lynch, Judy also felt God's leading to plan a Touched Twice Clinic for Shelby County. Over 500 volunteers from churches across the county helped with the clinic held on April 24, 2010. Medical, dental, vision, and other services were offered to people in need.

Teresa Parrett encourages adults who want to serve full or part-time as missions volunteers to consider self-funded missions opportunities. M.O.S.T. (Missions on Short Term) volunteers serve for terms ranging from three weeks to two years and often serve in close support of longterm missionaries. Adults may also serve as self-funded missionaries through Mission Service Corps (MSC). MSC missionaries are placed in assigned ministries through the North American Mission Board. As of this past May, 138 MSC missionaries are serving in various ministry roles in Kentucky.

"Why go? The reason is plain and simple," said Parrett. "Thousands in Kentucky are lost and need to hear the gospel message. In the Great Commission, Jesus tells us to go and share the gospel. In Acts 1:8, Jesus says we are to be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth. Going is not only to faraway places but right in our own state and our own back door."

Learn more at the KBC website ([www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org)) or contact Teresa Parrett, KBC Missions Mobilization Coordinator (e-mail: [teresa.parrett@kybaptist.org](mailto:teresa.parrett@kybaptist.org); phone: 606.875.3079).

# WHY?

Across our state, children and students who have been touched by Kentucky Baptist ministries are saying "I'm why!" People who have come to Christ through the witness of a Kentucky Baptist ministry are saying "I'm why!"

As you pray, ask God to kindle a new fire in the hearts of Kentucky Baptists to reach the lost people in our communities. Pray for God to speak to those who are struggling in the darkness of disbelief and save them. As you present your Eliza Broadus Offering for state missions as a sacrifice of praise, pray for God to provide new opportunities to share the gospel through the many ministries in Kentucky.

**WHY?** Because there are lost people in Kentucky who will only be saved if you learn, pray, give and go!!!!

## ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING for Kentucky State Missions, Special Ministries, and Missions Education 2010-11 OFFERING ALLOCATIONS

The Eliza Broadus Offering is sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. All Eliza Broadus Offering funds are used for missions ministries and missions education in Kentucky.

<b>Kentucky Baptist Convention</b> .....	<b>\$800,000</b>
Missions Growth/State Missionaries .....	290,000
New Work/Language Missions .....	116,500
Church & Community Missions .....	169,000
Evangelism .....	40,500
Student Work .....	103,000
Baptist Men on Mission Special Projects .....	41,000
Ministry Centers .....	40,000

### **Kentucky Special Ministries** ..... **\$125,000**

Requests for Special Ministries Funds are made through an application process.

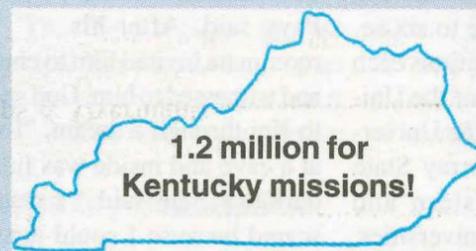
These funds are used to grant requests for mission project assistance with associations, churches, and MSC missionary projects.

The deadline for submitting an EBO allocation request for the 2010-11 offering is December 15, 2010. Contact Kentucky WMU for an allocation request form.

### **Kentucky WMU** ..... **\$275,000**

Missions Education, Leader Training, Missions Events, Resource Materials .....	133,643
Missions Camps & Overnights .....	69,507
Promotion & Season of Prayer .....	69,650
Missions Education Scholarships & Internships .....	2,200

## **OFFERING GOAL** ..... **\$1,200,000**



A folder of materials has been sent to the WMU director and pastor in every KBC church. It includes a DVD and teaching plans for all ages as well as suggestions for churchwide promotion of the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering. Contact Kentucky WMU to order posters, prayer guides, and offering envelopes. You may request a state missions folder by calling Kentucky WMU at 502-489-3534 or toll free, 1-866-489-3534; or by email: [kywmu@kybaptist.org](mailto:kywmu@kybaptist.org). These materials are provided by the gifts of your church to the Eliza Broadus Offering and the Cooperative Program.

Church contributions to the Eliza Broadus Offering should be mailed to: Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433. Checks should be made payable to Kentucky Baptist Convention and designated "EBO." Church Treasurers may also include EBO contributions with other contributions through the Kentucky Baptist Convention using the KBC church contribution form and designating the amount for the Eliza Broadus Offering.

Individuals or groups may contribute directly to the Eliza Broadus Offering. Please make checks payable to the Kentucky Baptist Convention and notate "EBO" on the check memo line. Mail these checks to: Eliza Broadus Offering, Kentucky WMU, PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569. Please enclose name and address for an acknowledgement of your gift.

Contributions for the 2010-11 Eliza Broadus Offering will be received from September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011.